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THURSDAY MARCH 23RD, 2017

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REMEMBER TO PUT YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD ONE HOUR!

NATIONAL PET MONTH & RURAL LIFE IN THE VALE

Collapsed scrums. A dodgy substitution. It's Wales v France in the Six Nations
BACK PAGE RUGBY COMMENT

'DEVASTATED' Local family's anguish after learning mum was buried in wrong plot at Penarth

PAUL HOOPER "The family were left devastated".

GEM EXCLUSIVE by TIM CHAPMAN

A Penarth family have been left "devastated" after their dearly-loved mother was buried in the wrong cemetery plot.

The mistake only came to light when they wanted to bury her baby great grand-daughter with her recently.

Paul Hooper (58) explained: "My niece Catherine lost her baby daughter a few months ago and Catherine wanted her buried with my mother, Marion Jarvis (née Hooper), her great grandmother, at Penarth Cemetery.

"It was then that we discovered that she had been buried in the wrong grave."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)

Learning how to 'milk' a wooden cow!

RECEPTION children at Colcot Primary had a visit from Abi Reader from Goldsland Farm last week as part of their topic 'Do Cows Drink Milk?'

"She taught us how to look after cows," a school spokesperson reported.

"We used the milk to make butter, which tasted delicious and creamy. We also 'milked' a wooden cow, which was interesting! We were very lucky, as we all got to sit in the tractor cab, which was good fun.

"Lots of the children now want to be farmers when they are older!"

Jail for man who switched price labels

A JOBLESS Barry man who committed an offence of fraud when shopping in a supermarket and who breached a suspended sentence order, has been jailed for a total of 24 weeks at Cardiff Crown Court, *writes AJ SICLUNA.*

Nigel Bryant (31), of Court Road, swapped reduced price stickers on goods at the Barry Asda store on to higher value items, said prosecutor Mike Hammett.

Bryant pleaded guilty at Cardiff Magistrates Court to an offence of fraud by false representation.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)

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• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address and a contact telephone number.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

Penarth's Oxfam shop needs vinyl!

IN the last four months, the Oxfam shop in Penarth has exceeded all previous music sales.

Between November 2016 and February 2017, a total of over £7,000 was achieved on all music sales, with vinyl the most popular choice of customers.

We have been overwhelmed by the response to our revamped vinyl section in the shop and LPs of all genres have been selling extremely well.

Anyone who has vinyl records of any kind that they would like to donate to Oxfam, can drop their donations at the shop in Windsor Street, Penarth.

We also welcome donations of CDs, music books, sheet music and musical instruments.

A didgeridoo was recently sold in the shop!

Large collections can be picked up by arrangement, by calling 02920 706358.

Caroline Mumford
(shop manager)

Rocky road to the dump

SO, the long-running saga of the access road to the Llandow recycling centre continues.

The issue has appeared in The GEM many times, but Mr Dew's latest intervention is timely in that the state of the road has deteriorated to the extent of putting the safety of personnel and vehicles at risk.

I am sure we all agree with the sentiments expressed by Mr Dew, but what did amaze me was the response from the local authority to this disgracefully maintained industrial estate.

I would have thought the council's response might have been along the lines of: "We are fully aware of the appalling state of the access road to the Llandow recycling centre and apologise for the difficulty it poses.

"Having tried and failed to persuade the owners to satisfactorily repair the road, we will now look to find a solution which will make your experience in visiting a recycling site more user-friendly.

"To this end, we are looking at alternative sites near to Llantwit Major. May we thank you for your efforts in helping us to reach our recycling targets."

What did we get? "We don't own it, so not much we can do about it." Pathetic.

Maybe, though, we are asking too much of the responsible cabinet members to find a solution. Maybe it's just filed in the 'too difficult' tray!

It could be, of course, that if they are the same people who are responsible for the pothole-riddled roads in the Vale, they may consider the Llandow site road acceptable, anyway!

Oh well, rant over; must go now as next year's council tax bill has just arrived in the post and I'm opening it... Ouch! How much?!

Chris Coade,
St Athan.

Town Clerk replies to questions over
Fair charges for all at Cowbridge Town Hall

MASONIC lodges, which have used the Cowbridge Town Hall since 1925, still pay only £1.67 per week rent for exclusive use of their room.

At their February meeting, the Town Council's Finance and General Purposes committee was recommending only a three per cent increase in line with other hirings, that is 5p per week!

Any other upstairs annexe room is currently charged at £25 per session to other users.

Following intervention from a former Mayor, the matter was referred back to the March committee meeting which was held recently.

Jane Hydon

DAVID MORRIS, Town Clerk of Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council, responds to the letter:

We have six Masonic Lodges that hire the Main Hall paying the same rate as any other hirer.

That is, from April 1, when Council agreed the three per cent increase in fees, the normal hire of the Main Hall will be:

Week days - £51.50 for up to three hours and thereafter £18.00 each additional hour.

Weekends - £67.00 for up to three hours and thereafter £26.00 per hour.

For commercial businesses that wish to hire the Main Hall or even the Lesser hall there is an additional 50% surcharge on the hire rates.

In addition to paying for the hire of the Main Hall, the Council also charge each Masonic Lodge a fee for using the store room to store equipment; this does not mean that other equipment cannot be stored there. They do not have exclusive rights to the store room.

Each Lodge pays £23.00 per quarter i.e. for the six Lodges or £138 per quarter, which is £552.00 pa. The six Masonic Lodges have had meetings in the Town Hall since 1925 and currently pay just under £6,000.00 pa in hire fees.

They have also helped and contributed to the upkeep of the Town Hall in other ways, e.g. refurbishment of the stage, purchased a defibrillator for the Town Hall.

The current fee that they pay for the storage of equipment is subject to review in line with the increase in hire charges for the Main Hall/Lesser Hall i.e. for 2017/18 - 3 per cent increase would be £568.56 pa.

It must also be pointed out that the Town Council have many other organisations/community groups who hire and use the Town Hall, for which no charge is made for them to store equipment/utensils etc.

For example:
RVS – four cupboards in Lesser Hall Kitchen
Y Bont Faen WI – one cupboard in Lesser Hall Kitchen
Museum – A wooden cupboard in corridor
U3A – Boards on the stage. Mugs and hot plate in cupboard in Annexe Kitchen
Twinning Association – Plates/bowls stored in cupboard opposite ground floor store room.
Charter Trust – Mugs in cell, Mayor's Parlour.
Country Market – Cupboard under the stairs from the Lesser Hall Lounge area.
Senior Citizens – Metal cupboard in corridor.
Royal British Legion – Store the Remembrance wreaths from September to November in Town Hall.

Only the six Masonic Lodges pay a fee for storing their equipment in the Store Room.

The Town Council are very much aware that the Town Hall is a community asset and actively encourage the community to use its facilities, but also recognise that they are responsible for its maintenance and upkeep as well as paying for utilities and business rates, which, as a Listed Historic Building, can be quite expensive.

The Town Clerk has been asked by the Town Council to review its policy on hiring out the facilities of the Town Hall to ensure that it is fair, equitable and transparent.

I note that the member of the public who has raised this issue was herself a Town Councillor and Past Mayor.

If she is aggrieved at the current policies of the Town Council, which have developed from her time on the Council, why wasn't this matter raised by her as a member of the council and addressed at that time?

'Is anyone monitoring health problems after Llandow fires?'

RECENTLY, there has been another fire on Llandow and we were warned to avoid the area and keep our windows closed.

I have been an in-patient at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend and whilst there last week, a gentleman from St Mary Church was on my ward.

He had been admitted for serious breathing problems, possibly linked to the incident. Also, I was speaking with a lady who had a similar problem and had been admitted to hospital.

I would like to know if someone from the Department of Health or any other appropriate organisation is collating data from anyone who may have been affected by the smoke?

As a community, we should be opposing a licence for any site operator, as in my opinion, the depositing of rubbish on Llandow is causing serious issues for people's health.

The storage of rubbish on Llandow must be stopped as there have been too many outbreaks of fire.

David Watson
Llantwit Major.

'Dinas bypass campaign non-political?'

I DON'T often put pen to paper, but I feel incensed at the vitriolic tactics employed in the media relating to transport issues in Dinas Powys.

The Dinas Powys Tories assured everyone that their bypass campaign is non-political, but when a Plaid councillor asked at a meeting if he could join the steering group, he was told emphatically by Tory councillors that he could not.

I, like many other Plaid members have signed the petition, and would have willingly helped out had we been allowed to join with them.

In the leaflet delivered by the Tories recently, they finally admit that the campaign is a political one, as it also does on Facebook.

Plaid willingly and regularly 'trudge' (the word used in the letter) the streets to keep in touch with residents throughout the four or five years of the council term, not just in the few months before the elections. The Tories don't seem to understand that it was Labour in their Local Development Plan, and Tories in their version of the Local Development Plan, who refused to put the bypass into the document.

It's worth remembering that Plaid proposed that the bypass should be included in the list of priorities in the Vale's Local Transport Plan.

This was opposed by the Conservatives.

They also backed the Local Development Plan that will result in 10,000 extra houses being built, with no significant improvements in transport infrastructure.

Plaid did not support this irresponsible policy.

At a recent Vale Council meeting, a Tory member was heard to say "a link road through from the A48 towards the M4 would be more use than a Dinas Powys bypass".

The Vale Tories don't seem to be on the same hymn sheet as their local councillors!

Mrs Val Hartrey,
Dinas Powys.
(Plaid Cymru ward member, Dinas Powys).

'MP should seek a new mandate from local voters'

Re-elected in 2015 as a disciple of David Cameron, we have already seen our MP betray those who voted for him.

An honourable person would call a by-election to allow the Vale to select a suitable candidate to represent their views in Westminster.

Alun supported his leader, campaigning to remain in the EU – as did the majority of his party's MPs, yet now he is right behind another Remainer, Theresa May, in promoting something he thought was so wrong.

He states a childlike belief in a strong plan for a smooth and orderly Brexit, controlling migration (note not reducing) and protecting workers' rights!

David Cameron said he would still lead us through Brexit....and then resigned, to be replaced by another Remainer who had led the Home Office through a period of failed migration manifesto promises!

Nobody would believe it if you made it up.

Conservative manifesto commitments have been published and then casually torn up: No income tax, NI or VAT tax increases to 2020 (a ridiculous promise but used as an election bribe); a minimum wage of £9 by 2020 (now not planned); commitment to the Single Market abandoned, although possible within Brexit; and several issues within the NHS, social care and education sectors.

Resign, Alun, and let your voters decide. It will be a great opportunity to get a mandate for all your 'new' views and rebuild trust with the voters in the Vale.

Steve Reed,
Rhoose

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Tel: 01446 774484 • Fax: 01446 774108
FACEBOOK: GlamorganGEM / TWITTER: @gem_news • @sport_gem

News Submissions: editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk
Editor Don John: don.john@glamorgan-gem.co.uk
Tim Chapman tim.chapman@glamorgan-gem.co.uk / TWITTER *@TimGlamorganGEM*
Philip Irwin philip.irwin@glamorgan-gem.co.uk / TWITTER *@PhilipGlamGEM*
Advertising/Distribution/Classified/Notices: sales@glamorgan-gem.co.uk
Sales Manager: jan.irving@glamorgan-gem.co.uk • **Sales:** wendy.snatchfold@glamorgan-gem.co.uk
vanessa.james@glamorgan-gem.co.uk • aimee.wilson@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

www.glamorgan-gem.co.uk

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Park Crescent resident in plea for proper enforcement on car parking

Park Crescent, Barry. IMAGES by CHLOE NEVILLE

by GEM REPORTER
If you have a story, please email: editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk; or call 01446 774484

A Park Crescent resident has contacted The GEM to express his concern about the traffic situation around the local school during busy periods in the day.

The resident, who did not want to be named, explained: "The parking situation at Romilly School is ridiculous, both in mornings and afternoons.

"Parents are parking wherever they like without any consideration for either local residents or the parking restrictions, and anyone who would want to park in Sainsbury's to do any shopping during these times won't be able to find a parking space as they are taken up by parents collecting their children.

"It's only by luck that there hasn't been any incidents, and I fear that it will only be a matter of time before something happens.

"Why parking enforcement officers are not doing something about this beggars belief. The Vale Council has increased council tax rates, yet things like this are not being policed properly by the council – something needs to be done as soon as possible before anything serious occurs."

Sainbury's store opened in 2012 in the teeth of opposition by local residents who collected over 4,500 signatures on a petition.

They had argued that it would increase traffic congestion near the school and could make the road more dangerous. Vale councillors had opposed the store, but it was given the green light by a planning inspector.

Emma Reed, the head of visible services and transport for the Vale Council, emphasised that the council's civil enforcement officers have a strong presence in Barry.

She explained: "We do understand residents' frustration when it comes to inconsiderate and dangerous parking.

"Following a recent meeting with Romilly School governors, the council is currently liaising with partner agencies to set up a multi-agency working group between the traffic enforcement team, the police and community safety in order to assist with the parking issues that occur around the school during opening and closing times.

"The police also recently issued a statement at the end of February to appeal to parents to park responsibly outside all schools.

"Furthermore, we have recently launched our new 'Park Tidy!' campaign, which aims to highlight the dangers of inappropriate parking – particularly around hotspots like schools and near busy junctions – and hope it deters people from doing it."

She added: "It is hoped that this will further encourage all motorists to act in a more responsible and considerate manner when parking and will lead to a decrease in the number of problem parking incidents across the whole of the Vale, including outside schools."

Visitors will be enjoying the sights and sounds of Barry Island this Easter.

Council happy there is 'ample' parking as traders gear up for Easter period

THE Vale Council says it is confident there are enough car parking spaces to accommodate visitors to Barry Island this Easter.

The Easter weekend starts on Good Friday, April 14, and is one of the most important dates in the Island's calendar.

If the weather is good, thousands of people from south Wales will converge on Barry's coast and the traders will enjoy a bumper start to the 2017 season.

April Keeble of dog-friendly cafe 'K9 Plus 1' told The GEM that it was nice to have the fairground back, and added that she was concerned that any parking pricing structure should not deter dog owners from making a trip to the Island.

Karen Jones of Boofy's said that she has noticed visitor numbers increasing since the new Waterfront estates have been constructed, but she hoped people would not experience congestion over the next few weeks because they might not be so keen on a return visit.

She said it was important that there were sufficient signs for all the local car parks.

Mark Vockins of Barry Island Quasar, which is located on Station Approach, a main road onto the Island, told The GEM he was concerned about the car parking capacity on the Island because Harbour Road car park overflow was being used by developers on the nearby construction site.

Karen Jones of Boofy's.

April Keeble of dog-friendly cafe 'K9 Plus 1'.
IMAGES by CHLOE NEVILLE

Harbour Road's concrete area accommodates 550 spaces – any other spaces are in the over-spill area, if available.

Nell's Point was upgraded a few years ago, and there are also 95 free car parking spaces.

A Vale Council spokesperson said there was more than enough parking to cope.

"While we would always encourage people to use the 'Park and Ride' or walk, there is ample parking provision for those that wish to travel by car to enjoy Barry Island over the Easter bank holiday.

"There are approximately 1,100 spaces at Harbour Road, including the area's overflow facility, while Nell's Point can accommodate around 800 cars. There are also a small number of on-street parking spaces available."

Maria lands 'Superstar' award for contribution to building control service

The Vale Council's Maria Webber receiving her 'Superstar' award at the 2017 National Building Awards.

THE Vale Council's Maria Webber has been crowned the 'Local Authority Building Control Superstar' in the 2017 National Building Awards.

The awards celebrate and recognise *'unique individuals in local authority building control'* who go out of their way to support their colleagues, protect the public, and provide first class customer service.

Maria told The GEM: "I am delighted and a bit overwhelmed by all of the congratulations and even flowers!

"I get real satisfaction from helping people and solving their problems. I do it because it's the right way to work but I like to think this customer service is also the reason that people choose to use the council's service and not the others that are available.

"We've got to make sure we are first class to compete with the private sector. But I love my job and wouldn't want to do any less for the people that come to us."

Congratulating Maria on her success, Rob Thomas, Vale managing director, said: "Maria has a reputation within the council as someone who will always deliver and who goes out of her way to help customers.

"Over the years her work and the way she manages relationships with our customers has been vital in promoting and growing the building control service into what is now a very successful team. I've had the pleasure of working with her for many years and can say that this award is well and truly deserved."

Town Council to meet tonight over incinerator

BARRY residents recently attended a public meeting at Castleland Community Centre, focusing on efforts to stop a controversial wood waste incinerator operating on nearby dockland

Around 50 people discussed ways of stopping Biomass UK No.2 Ltd from operating a "gasification facility" at Woodham Road.

Natural Resources Wales (NRW) is undertaking a consultation on whether it will grant the licence necessary to operate the plant which already has planning approval.

An extraordinary meeting of Barry Town Council is taking place tonight, Thursday, March 23 to consider whether a budget should be set aside to make *"informed representations regarding the Biomass UK Number Two Ltd Environmental Permit Application"*.

A budget of £5,000 could be set aside to hire expert consultants who would examine technical aspects of the application.

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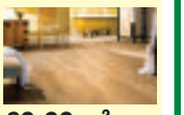
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Music-loving Doris has a 100th birthday celebration!

RIGHT: Doris Thomas with her message from the Queen on her 100th birthday

DORIS THOMAS of Penarth, (originally from St Athan), recently celebrated her 100th birthday!

She was born on February 28, 1917, to Samuel and Mabel Hammett, of Myrtle Cottage, Higher End, St. Athan.

Her father worked on the railway and Doris was the fourth of five children – the others being Cyril, Arthur, Joan, Doris and William.

As a child, she would help her mother by bringing up water from the well at the bottom of the 'well field'.

St, Athan was bombed during WW II and Myrtle Cottage narrowly escaped, with a crater at the bottom of the garden behind the house. (She wrote movingly in her memoirs about the experience.)

Doris attended high school in Barry and completed nursing training at Llandough Hospital.

She married Tom Thomas, from Maesteg, and they honeymooned in Ilfracombe.

When the war broke out Tom joined the RAF. Before the war, Tom was a baker and afterwards he became a welder at the cement works in Rhoose. They moved subsequently to 16 Glebeland Place, St. Athan, where they raised their family.

Doris and Tom had two children, Gareth in 1943 and Gwynne in 1945.

Gareth attended Swansea University and eventually moved to America, where he married Linda.

Gwynne attended Manchester University, married Ann, and they lived in both Africa and Hong Kong before settling in Hertford.

Gareth and Linda have two children, Margaret (Meg) and Richard, and Gwynne and Ann have two as well, Rachel and Daniel.

Doris has five great-grandchildren. Tragically, Gwynne died of cancer at the young age of 58.

Doris and Tom loved to visit their children and their families, including many trips to America, until Tom passed away at 84.

When Doris lived at Glebeland Place, there was frequent music. She loved to play the piano and 'sang like a bird!'.

She attended St. Athan Methodist Chapel, where she played the organ for many years. She was very active in the sisterhood. She is very happy now in Morel Court, in Penarth, where her handwriting in frequent letters is still perfect.

Her mother lived until the age of 98 in Myrtle Cottage and her cousin, Harry 'Griff' Jenkins, recently passed away at 102.

Doris is continuing the family tradition of longevity!

Independents choose 3 to stand in Dinas Powys

THREE independent candidates in Dinas Powys are standing in the local elections on Thursday, May 4.

Current Vale councillor Chris Williams has joined with long standing residents Tom Maitland Evans and John Maitland Evans.

Mr Williams has been a Vale councillor for 17 years and a community councillor for 25. He has been an independent since 2014.

Married to Jacqui with three grown up children he has lived in Dinas for almost 40 years. A keen sportsman he has played football, rugby and bowl for local clubs. He is particularly interested in the environment and is a member of a number of local organisations including Valeways.

Tom Maitland Evans has lived in Dinas Powys for almost 30 years. He has over 13 years' experience working in local government, firstly with Cardiff Council then more recently with the Vale Council, where his responsibilities amongst others involved the management of the electoral services team and the Vale of Glamorgan CCTV Unit.

He now works in Barry for an IT software company. Tom is married to Helen and lives on Southra Park. Their three young boys attend Dinas Powys Primary School. He is also a fluent Welsh speaker.

John Maitland Evans has lived in Dinas Powys with his wife Margaret for nearly 30 years. He is a former local government officer with nearly 40 years' experience across three Welsh councils, as a town and county planner and general manager.

Before retiring, his last job was as the Vale Council's chief executive between 1999 and 2012.

Dinas independents say the bypass has become a 'political football' played every four years, but they pledge to campaign to ensure the council backs the scheme and uses its considerable reserves to 'pump prime' the project.

Among their other priorities are implementing a comprehensive traffic management plan that prioritises pedestrians, cyclists, and local traffic, and slows down through traffic and remove heavy traffic.

They say this would mean 20mph zones, more effective traffic calming measures, pedestrian crossings, a ban on heavy vehicles, road safety speed cameras, a comprehensive program of pavement repairs, and new cycle routes including one from Dinas Powys to Barry.

The group's manifesto is set out on its campaign website www.dinaspowys.wordpress.com.

Barry Community Garden bags a £2,000 windfall

BARRY Community Garden bagged £2,000 from the Tesco funding scheme, to begin the process of bringing its woodwork project to life.

A four-week training programme is currently taking place at the garden, which is managed by Newydd Housing Association and owned by the Vale Council, to teach people how to build a range of products, including benches, planters and bird boxes, from pallets.

Working in partnership with Eggseeds, the course allows volunteers to sell some of the items to create income for the garden.

SULLY U3A GO ITALIAN!

SULLY U3A's conversational Italian group recently met at Romeo's for lunch.

Everyone put their Italian to use when ordering their meals and drinks. They were served by a very charming Italian waiter from Palermo, who was only too happy to help with any translations.

Sully U3A has almost 40 interest groups covering a wide range of topics. Everyone is welcome to attend a monthly meeting and find out what U3A has to offer.

The next meeting will be at 2pm in The Old School, Sully, on Thursday, April 13, when the speaker will be Brian Davies, whose talk will be 'William Edwards, bridge builder'.

Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

EGGSTRA EGG APPEAL

Lyndsay and Nicola Ellis of

The Vale Funeral Service
Independent Funeral Directors

Are calling out for donations of easter eggs to their Easter Egg Appeal. All donated eggs will be given to the local charity Vale Food Bank

Vale foodbank Banc Bwyd Y Fro

From now until Monday 10th April eggs can be brought to our office:
Lyndsay Ellis @ The Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Cadoxton, Barry. 01446 407962

Council apologises after mix-up over burial at cemetery

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Paul continued: "The family were devastated when we found out. Since then I have had problems sleeping – it's been terrible."

Marion was Penarth born and bred and lived at Coronation Terrace. She died in 2003 at the age of 82.

The family had to sign papers to have her body moved a few feet into the correct plot. They attended the reinterment on Tuesday, March 14.

Paul's sister Pat, Catherine's mum, told The GEM the family had asked Penarth Council whether her mother could stay where she was, but that wasn't possible.

She added: "They have apologised and brought flowers when they reburied my mother."

The ashes of her granddaughter were also buried with her mother.

It has been a traumatic period for the family and Mr Hooper says he plans to take the matter up with his MP Alun Cairns.

A spokeswoman for Penarth Town Council emphasised that after the mistake was discovered it worked swiftly to redress matters.

"Firstly, Penarth Town Council would like to publicly apologise to the family of Mrs Marion Jarvis and the obvious distress this situation has caused.

"The error occurred 14 years ago when Mrs Jarvis was interred at Penarth Cemetery. The issue came to light when Mrs Patricia Quick came to the council to arrange for her baby grand-daughter's ashes to be interred with Mrs Jarvis.

"From a legal point of view, Mrs Jarvis's family did not hold the exclusive rights of burial for the grave where Mrs Jarvis was originally buried. Therefore, this had to be corrected and the only course of correct action the council could take was to apply to the Ministry of Justice to conduct an exhumation and arrange immediate reburial to the correct grave plot.

Penarth born Marion Jarvis (née Hooper).

"At all times, officers at Penarth Town Council have worked with the family to redress the error as swiftly and sympathetically as possible.

"Penarth Town Council feels that it has worked well with the family, and on all occasions of meeting them, officers have been helpful and accommodating to the family's requests.

"Officers have been thanked by members of the family during this difficult time. The family has been notified by council officers of the options available to them should they wish to make a formal complaint."

'Enforcement' required at Valley View shops

say Plaid representatives

by GEM REPORTER

If you have a story, pleaseemail: editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk; or call 01446 774484

TRAFFIC restrictions opposite the shops at 'Valley View' in Dinas Powys would be welcomed by local road safety campaigners.

People in the village are only too aware of the problems at peak times when there are a lot of vehicles being driven along Castle Drive by the shops while other cars are trying to enter or exit parking spaces in front of the businesses.

Richard Grigg, on behalf of Dinas Powys Plaid Cymru explained: "We have been supporting residents' calls for improved safety at this busy shopping area.

"Every day there are either near misses or actual collisions as drivers leave the parking bays and passing vehicles try to squeeze between parked cars.

"This exit serves a little under 900 homes and the shops attract trade from even further afield."

Coun Keith Hatton said Plaid had been lobbying for some time for the safety problems to be properly addressed.

He said: "We do not want unnecessary restrictions but conditions here are not satisfactory. There is a large car park to the rear that is being used more these days."

Coun Val Hartrey added: "I am very keen that local shops thrive, especially small independent traders. The current situation is dangerous and must be addressed."

Coun Chris Franks insisted: "It is vital that we have proper enforcement. We hardly see any police or traffic warden action in Dinas Powys.

"It is unacceptable that we do not have proper support in our communities. Traffic is an increasing worry for people and we need action to protect our residents."

ABOVE: Keith Hatton, Richard Grigg, Chris Franks and Val Hartrey are concerned that traffic movements along Castle Drive should be safe.

BARRY MAN RECEIVES NOMINATION FOR AWARD

BARRY author and podcaster Scott McGlynn has been nominated for a 'Positive Role Model' award.

His debut book, *OUT*, received critical acclaim and The Guardian labelled him "inspirational". He is listed in the 2016 Pride Power Awards. Scott also produces podcasts.

The Scott McGlynn Show, which is available on iTunes, Soundcloud and Stitcher, combines news and advice with real-life coming-out stories from lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) celebrities.

Since its launch earlier this year, Scott has interviewed Hollywood names such as Daniel Franzese, Mark Zammit and Pandora Boxx of RuPaul's Drag Race, and there are plenty more lined up over the coming months.

Scott has been nominated for the Positive Role Model award at this year's National Diversity Awards.

When asked how he feels about being a role model, Scott said, "I grew up when there were very few positive role models for young gay people.

"That is now changing, but bullying and discrimination are still very real issues for many.

"I'm proud to be seen as a role model and will continue to do everything I can to let people know that growing up LGBT doesn't have to be a battle."

For more information about Scott, visit *scottmcglynn.net* or follow him on social media (Twitter: *@ScottyMcGlynn* or Facebook: *Scott Mcglynn*).

ABOVE: Scott McGlynn.

Barry man's Asda price sticker scam

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Mr Bryant was also in breach of an eight-month suspended sentence imposed in October last year for possessing cannabis with intent to supply.

Mr Hammett said that Bryant and two others went into the Asda store and he was seen to take low price stickers off reduced items and put them on more expensive ones.

He left with meat goods for which he paid £1.07, the real value was £23.25.

He was arrested on the spot and made a full admission, claiming that when he went to the premises, he had no dishonest intent.

The men who accompanied Bryant were dealt with by Cardiff Magistrates.

He was said to have previous convictions for offences of theft, handling stolen goods and possessing cannabis and cocaine.

The offence for which he was given a suspended sentence involved "low level street dealing", said Mr Hammett.

Bryant's solicitor, Adam Sharp, said : "He realises his position is precarious. He was motivated to change the label because of serious financial problems.

"It was a foolish thing to do and he was apprehended in good time. In the past, he suffered a heart attack," said Mr Sharp.

Judge David Wyn Morgan told him: "You were told that you were in breach of the suspended sentence and you would go to prison. There are no exceptional circumstances."

Friends and Neighbours

THE Friends and Neighbours' March meeting at Beryl Road Pioneer Hall, Barry, was attended by some 50 members.

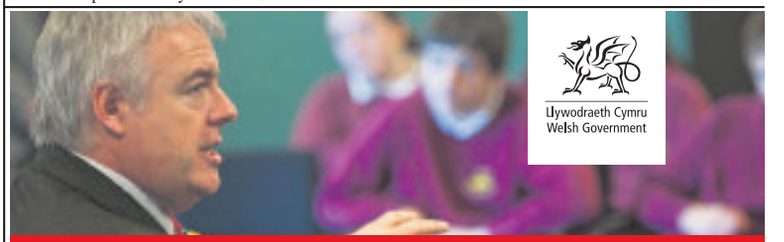
Entertainment was provided by Clocs Canton North West Morris Dancing group, from Cardiff.

The troupe, dressed in their colourful costumes of red, green and white, depicting the colours of Wales, performed dance sequences involving garlands and wavers, in yellow and green, representing daffodils and leeks.

A presentation followed with a talk and slide show on the different Morris dancers across the UK. Some of the members joined in the dancing to learn the various movements!

Members are now looking forward to a busy April programme, with an Easter party and trip to the Brecon canal and Brecon town, and a visit to the Wales Millennium Centre to see *Sister Act*.

Call 01446 400044 for further information about Friends and Neighbours.



Cyfarfod Carwyn

Bydd Prif Weinidog Cymru Carwyn Jones AC yn cynnal cyfarfod cyhoeddus yn y **Barri** ar **3 Ebrill**. Hoffai glywed am y pynciau yn eich cymuned sy'n bwysig i chi, gwrando ar eich syniadau ac ateb eich cwestiynau.

Lleoliad: Canolfan Gelfyddydau y Memo, Heol Gladstone, Barry, Bro Morgannwg, CF62 8NA

Amser: 6.00pm – 7.30pm

Te a choffi ar gael o 5.30pm

I gadw eich lle, ewch i **www.eventbrite.co.uk**

Anfonwch eich cwestiwn ymlaen llaw i **cabinetcommunications @cymru.gsi.gov.uk**

neu cyflwynwch eich cwestiwn wrth ichi gyrraedd.

Carwyn Connect

The First Minister of Wales Carwyn Jones AM will be holding a public meeting in **Barry** on **3 April**. He wants to hear about the issues in your community that matter to you, listen to your ideas, and answer your questions.

Venue: Memo Arts Centre, Gladstone Road, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 8NA

Time: 6.00pm – 7.30pm

Tea & coffee available from 5.30pm

To book your place, go to **www.eventbrite.co.uk**

Send in a question in advance to **cabinetcommunications @wales.gsi.gov.uk**

or submit one as you arrive.

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Chris Thorne and Rod Thomas.

Call for safer parking at Sully primary

CAMPAIGNERS in Sully have set up a petition to improve parking and safety measures around Sully primary school, following increasing concerns of local residents, parents and road users.

According to the Sully and Lavernock Residents Association, its website has been "inundated" in recent days over the problems with parking at the school, with many people fearing for the safety of young children attending the school.

The petition has been organised by two Sully Conservatives, Chris Thorne and Rod Thomas, who want the Vale Council to explore all options available.

They said: "The ongoing problems with parking and road safety at Sully Primary School are a concern for all involved – parents, pupils, teachers and local residents.

"The Vale Council should be exploring all available options to improve the situation, but it is imperative that any solutions are achieved by communicating with local residents, as they have first-hand experience of the difficulties.

"A number of solutions previously implemented, such as yellow lines, have clearly not had the desired effect and it is vital any further action is well-thought through and considers the needs of pupils, parents, residents and the school.

"We would like to see the Vale Council initiate a summit of all parties involved, to ensure the best possible solutions are delivered for Sully primary school."

Adventures in Quizland…

THE chairman of Barry Men's Forum welcomed new member, Tim Morgan, before introducing Gwerfyl Gardener, who spoke on her participation in numerous television quiz shows.

Her first introduction to quizzing was representing Bangor Grammar School in 1953 on the radio programme *Top of the Form*, which Bangor won.

When she was a teacher, she did not enter any quizzes through fear of being taunted by her pupils for failing, but after retirement, despite her family's reticence, she has taken part in most of the more popular shows.

Originally, the prizes were very small, and on *15 to 1*, when the quiz master William G Stewart was very welcoming and charming, she won a 'Greek Urn'. This gave her the bug to be a contestant in other competitive shows.

She won the *Weakest Link* when stern Anne Robinson took a dislike to her because, she said, of her name, and which she thinks she may have won the £3,100 because the other contestants were also unsure how to pronounce it, to vote her off!

Another show she participated in was *Eggheads,* when the Glamorgan WI won £11,000.

Gwerfyl organised a quiz for Forum members, when Frank Byrne, representing the BMF Technical team, won.

The next meeting is on March 30, when the speaker will again be Gwerfyl Gardener, talking about Dyffryn Gardens and the Cory family,

New members are welcome at £2 per meeting, which includes light refreshments, from 10.15am to noon at the Trinity Presbyterian Church Hall, every Thursday morning.

For further information, contact chairman Mac Tanner, on 01446 743455.

PMW

Mama Mia, what a performance!

A MURDER mystery and a birthday celebration marked the March meeting of Rhoose WI.

The evening started with the WI drama group the WINOS performing the murder mystery, *Mama Mia*. It began with the cast and audience dancing to 'Waterloo' by Abba.

This was interrupted by policemen Inspector Ferdinand Aha and Sergeant Noel Ingyu, who reported the suspicious death of singer Mama Mia just before her opening concert at the venue run by Honey Funnymoni.

Other suspects were theatrical agents Walter Lew and Jacqui Chansonmee; security guards Ivor Dreme and Julie Voo; Dr Sue Patroopa; dancers Jimmy Gimigimi and Dan Sequin; Mama's PA Davina Teksittal and Mama Mia's boyfriend and fellow artiste Ritchie Keeter.

As always, the WINOS gave a bravura performance, ably supported by the audience – and mention must be given here to Sandra Leat and Karen Jones who turned up in full ABBA gear, including silver wigs and platform shoes!

After the denouement, attention turned to the other event of the evening: the 80th birthday party of long-serving committee member, Avril Phillips. Everyone enjoyed the celebration, with cakes and drinks supplied by Avril and her daughter Julia, who had surprised her mother when she arrived unexpectedly from the Channel Islands in time for the celebration.

A thoroughly enjoyable evening ended with the announcement of the competition and raffle winners Eiry Price and Sandra Leat.

The next meeting of Rhoose WI will be held at 7.30pm on April 6 at The Community Hall, Stewart Road, when the speaker will be a member of the Fire Service, who will talk about 'Safety in the Home'.

The branch welcomes visitors and new members.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Firm raises the roof!

FOLLOWING severe weather conditions and high winds, the hard-hit Barry Island Primary School were given a welcome surprise by local company, ICD Roof Solutions Ltd.

"Andy Roberts, the managing director, kindly arranged for his team of experts to repair the school roof, free of charge," said Matt Gilbert, headteacher.

"On behalf of the governing body and the children, I would like to thank Andy and his team for their generosity in repairing the roof. The professionalism and quality of the work is fantastic, he added."

Bungalows get £1.7m facelift

BUNGALOWS in Barry are currently being upgraded as part of a £1.7m Vale Council scheme.

Seventeen properties on Pardoe Crescent, Coldbrook Road East, Ashgrove and Tordoff Way in Barry will undergo extensive improvement works, which involve replacing all but the concrete base of the buildings.

Previously made of a timber frame and aluminium cladding, the bungalows now have concrete cavity walls, new windows, doors, roofs, kitchens and bathrooms, while some landscaping work has also been carried out in the gardens.

Dinas Powys concert

ON Sunday, April 9, at the Parish Hall, Britway Road, Dinas Powys, Dinas Powys Orchestra will be performing a programme featuring Mozart's *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik*, Krommer *Double Clarinet Concerto*, Schubert *Symphony No 5*.

The soloists are Tiago Ferreira and David Dodd and tickets are £8 with under-12s £3, available on the door or telephone 029 2070 6288.

František Krommer was a Czech composer whose 71-year life span began half a year after the death of Handel and ended nearly four years after that of Beethoven.

His output was prolific, with at least 300 published compositions, including at least nine symphonies, 70 string quartets and many others for winds and strings, and much sonorous, idiomatic and, at times, powerful music for wind ensemble, for which he is best known today.

The soloists are new members of the orchestra.

Vale Council operational manager for leisure, Dave Knevett, Coun Lis Burnett and Sutcliffe play representative Gary Parker test out the new equipment at Plassey Square.

Two more parks to undergo refurbishment

WORK to refurbish Penarth parks continues apace, with new-look play areas at Plassey Square and Cwrt Y Vil set to open in time for the Easter holidays.

In total, £600,000 has been set aside for improvements to north Penarth parks in a scheme that will also include upgrades to Paget Road play area, Cogan recreation ground skate park and Dingle Park.

A council spokesperson said that additional work to renew the Cliff Walk play area was already under way and included a wheelchair-accessible roundabout.

Cwrt Y Vil Park will also include a wheelchair-accessible roundabout, with a flat seat swing and wide access gate, among other features.

Coun Lis Burnett, deputy leader of the Vale Council, said: "Refurbishing parks and green spaces was a major ambition for the council, with a total of seven in Penarth receiving such treatment. This is part of an ongoing programme of investment in such facilities across the Vale.

"Our aim is to provide modern, safe and exciting areas for children to enjoy. These upgrades are really exciting and we hope the improved play areas will prove to be a real asset to Penarth."

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY IS CELEBRATED AT SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

THE brainchild of Soroptimist president Pat Salt came to fruition on March 8 when Soroptimists and Bryn Hafren sixth form and staff at Barry, joined together to honour International Women's Day at a celebratory school assembly.

From left: Caitlyn Organ, Heidi Murray, Tyrone Davies, Pat Salt, Judy James, Dr Hilary Fielder and Charlotte Rose.

Headteacher Mr Tyrone Davies welcomed all to the morning and gave an interesting illustration of past female inequality.

The more talented sister of composer Mendelssohn was forbidden by their father to compose music when she became a young woman, as he expected her to concentrate on being a wife and mother.

Head girl Charlotte Rose followed with a presentation of her love of science and the lack of prejudice she had encountered in these enlightened times when studying it to a higher degree.

The following guest speakers all had similar themes running through their talks, as they highlighted the route education had taken them through their lives and the obstacles they had encountered, and the determination it had taken to overcome them to achieve their goals.

The first speaker, Dr Hilary Fielder, was not discouraged when as a young girl she was not expected to go into the medical profession. With excellent academic achievement and supportive parents Hilary became a doctor of medicine and finally the first female Professor of Public Health in Wales and the first female executive of the board.

All this, as she said, despite not wearing lipstick and taking a long career break to marry and bring up her children.

Judy James, Soroptimist and lecturer in early years learning, spoke of how she had come from Budapest to Penarth in 30 years and how her educational achievements had been completed while she was an immigrant in three countries.

Due first to political unrest in Hungary and then Chile, she completed a psychology degree in America and continued her career in Barry when she met and married a Welsh man.

Cardiff Prison Governor, Heidi Murray, gave an illustration of how you can develop yourself as a woman from the humblest of backgrounds through education.

Jane Hutt AM and fellow Soroptimist brought the proceedings to a close and a vote of thanks was given by Caitlin Organ, sixth form leadership team.

Mr Tyrone Davies said: "As headteacher of Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School for Girls I am proud to say that our curriculum holds no gender bias.

"Mathematics, science and technology departments have always encouraged girls to be the best that they can be and these subjects, together with humanities, languages, creative and practical subjects provide access to a wealth of career opportunities.

"We were delighted to host the Soroptimist International Women's Day event on March 8, to reinforce the message that women must aspire to be as good as, and even better at times than their male counterparts.

"Our sixth form audience of boys and girls were inspired by the stories from the eminent speakers, all of whom have achieved positions of authority in their field.

"The Soroptimists are valued friends of Bryn Hafren and we are grateful for the support and inspiration that these strong women provide for our pupils."

OAK FIELD PRIMARY PUPILS IMPROVE LANGUAGE SKILLS

THE nursery children at Oak Field Primary School celebrated their success at a special assembly recently after taking part in a six-week programme of 'language and play'.

Sponsored by Putting Families First, the children learned stories and rhymes, sang and played along with Musical Minis and ventured out into the great outdoors to go on a bear hunt!

Parents and carers received their certificates, along with the children who saw an improvement in their language skills throughout the programme.

ND

ABOVE: Oak Field Primary School nursery pupils proudly show their certificates.

Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

WCVA offers a 'health check'

THE Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA) has produced a 'Good Governance Health Check,' which can be broken down and completed at your own pace, so it needn't be a daunting task.

It can be found on the WCVA website: www.wcva.org.uk/advice-guidance/trustees-and-governance/tools-to-help-you

Glamorgan Voluntary Services (GVS) promotes the voluntary sector in the Vale of Glamorgan, and part of that includes support with governance-related matters. To talk with someone about the governance of your group or organisation, call 01446 741706, or e-mail: enquiries@gvs.wales. Glamorgan Voluntary Services (GVS) Website: www.gvs.wales.

PACT meetings

***GIBBONSDOWN** – meet your local neighbourhood team at Aberaeron HUB, Aberaeron Close, Barry, every Monday between 10am and 12 noon.*

***ST BRIDES** coffee and chat at the Fox and Hounds, St Brides, on Thursday, March 30 at 11am.*

If you have any issues that are affecting your quality of life and are unable to attend a meeting please contact 101 for non emergencies or log onto: www.south-wales.police.uk.

Coun Peter King with representatives of Bellway Homes and Walters Construction, as the bus lane at Port Road is opened to the public.

New bus lane is open in Wenvoe

A NEW signalised junction with a dedicated bus lane on Port Road, Wenvoe, has been officially opened to the public.

A joint partnership between the Welsh Government, Vale Council and Bellway Homes, the scheme aims to enhance cycle and pedestrian facilities along the northern section of Port Road, and encourage more people to walk and cycle there.

Gareth Stevens, commercial manager of Cardiff Buses, said: "It is hoped that it will offer quicker journey times between Barry and Llantwit Major."

Kevyn Jones, managing director of New Adventure Travel, said: "The new bus lane and improved traffic signals will help us deliver a reliable service with consistent journey times that will meet passengers' expectations."

Coun Peter King, Vale Council cabinet member for building services, highways and transportation, said: "The new signalised junction will not only offer improvements for those travelling by car, but will also provide for those cycling and walking.

"We have a continuing commitment to improving the transport network across the Vale – evidenced by the recent completion of the £500,000 scheme to provide the new junction at Cross Common Road – and hope the new bus lane at Port Road will prove a significant gateway in the future."

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CAVC beats off all comers to win award

From left: Pearson marketing director for apprenticeships Claire Riddle, Minister for Skills and Science Julie James, Mike James, and Association of Colleges Beacon Steering Group Welsh representative Dr John Graystone.

CARDIFF and Vale College has been presented with a national award for being the top apprenticeship provider in the UK.

CAVC beat off competition from the rest of the UK's Further Education (FE) providers to win the Association of Colleges Beacon Award for Promotion and Delivery of Apprenticeships, sponsored by Pearson.

The Beacon Awards celebrate the best and most innovative practice among UK FE institutions, rewarding colleges that go above and beyond in providing technical and professional education. Award winners must also offer something exceptional to students and the wider community.

Dr John Graystone, the Welsh representative on the AoC's Beacon Steering Group, and Minister for Skills and Science Julie James presented the award to Cardiff and Vale College Group chief executive Mike James and Cardiff and Vale College principal Kay Martin, who is also chair of the Quality Skills Alliance (QSA).

This academic year also saw the region's other leading apprenticeship provider, ACT, join forces with the CAVC family. This created the Cardiff and Vale College Group, the largest college in Wales and in the UK's top five with a £75m turnover and more than 30,000 learner [student] enrolments annually.

Mr James said: "We are absolutely thrilled to receive the Beacon Award today. It is testament to the hard work and determination shown by our apprenticeship team, subcontractors and staff right across the college and the QSA and I am hugely proud of their achievement."

LEADERSHIP CAFE 'TEAM OF THE YEAR'

The Leadership Café team celebrate their success at this year's LGC Awards.

THE Vale Council has won an award.

The team behind the council's 'Leadership Café' scheme was crowned 'Team of the Year' at the Local Government Chronicle awards in London.

Rob Thomas, managing director said: "This is absolutely fantastic news and a very proud moment for the council.

"The Leadership Café has previously been recognised as good practice by the Wales Audit Office and has rightly now received further praise.

"It is not, however, just this group of colleagues that is setting new standards for achievement in the Vale. Teams throughout the organisation are working harder than ever to improve the services that we deliver for the Vale, and all colleagues should be proud of this recognition."

Vale AM supported recent 'Fairtrade Fortnight' event

VALE AM Jane Hutt celebrated 'Fairtrade Fortnight' by holding a coffee morning with the Rainbow Group in Barry, and by attending an event at Dinas Powys Primary School.

The Labour AM reported: "It is wonderful to see local groups like Dinas Powys Fairtrade promoting the scheme locally and spreading the word about the impact buying these products has on farmers and producers in developing countries.

"It is also fantastic that they are working with schools in the Vale to spread the word about it."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Rhoose Community Hall

THE management committee at Rhoose Community Hall, Stewart Road, is holding a fundraising bingo afternoon on Saturday, March 25. Doors will open at 1.45pm for a prompt 2.30pm start.

There will be a raffle and refreshments; all proceeds go towards the running of the hall.

Cantorion Pontyclun concert

THE Cantorion Pontyclun choir and guests 'Affinity' choral group will hold a concert at the Pontyclun Athletic Club on May 26 at 7.30pm.

Tickets (£5) available at the door or from choir members. Proceeds will go to Alzheimer's charity.

Independent to stand in Wenvoe ward

Russell Godfrey

RUSSELL GODFREY has confirmed that he will be standing as an independent candidate for the Wenvoe Ward in the forthcoming May elections.

The Wenvoe ward is one that has seen many changes in recent years, with two ongoing new housing developments (in Wenvoe) and one about to commence in St Nicholas, along with the redevelopment of the Cambrian Park Home Site and the loss of the HTV Studios.

Mr Godfrey said: "My main aim if elected is to do my upmost to protect the remaining green belt within the ward

"I would ensure that residents' concerns within the ward are raised with the Vale Council and do my upmost to get satisfactory responses to these issues.

"I would hold regular surgeries across the ward.

"If anyone would be interested in helping in anyway with my campaign please contact me via the following email address: russell.godfrey@live.co.uk or by telephone on 07724 827 496."

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Table top sale

ON Saturday, April 1 at 11 am, a table top sale will be held at Crossway Methodist Church, Court Road, Barry.

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Young ballet contenders need sponsors for 'Dance World Cup'

THE Nicola Peros Ballet School, which holds classes in Barry and Cardiff, has announced that 10 young ballet students aged between nine and 12 have qualified to compete for Team Wales in this year's Dance World Cup in Offenburg, Germany.

Keira Durston will be competing in the Pointe Solo and Ellie Daniels, Grace Long, Elizabeth Hope Angove, Leia Cavaliere, Louise Bagnall, Mollie Foley, Mia Thomson, Stefanie Maurer and Eleanora Smalley will all be competing in a group dance at the opening ceremony on June 23, at what is considered by some to be the Olympic Games of the dance world.

In order to cover the costs of sending the talented young dancers to the event, the ballet school is trying to raise around £4,000 to pay for accommodation, flights, travel costs to the venue and the dancers' costumes.

According to school principal and RAD registered teacher, Nicola Peros, the students will be carrying out a number of fundraising activities, such as bag packing at local supermarkets, and they will be holding a craft fair and coffee morning event at St Nicholas Hall, Barry on April 29.

Members of the public are encouraged to come and support the students at these events.

There is also a crowd funding Just Giving page.

Nicola said: "A £5 donation will cover the cost of ribbons for the shoes for the dancers so anything members of the public can donate will be greatly appreciated."

They have put together a sponsorship package for businesses, which includes – for a £250 donation – a business/company logo on the Team Wales tracksuits, press activity in the form of a dedicated press release for the business/company to publicise the sponsorship, the logo to appear on the Nicola Peros Facebook page, website and on any adverts.

Nicola continued: "This is an amazing opportunity for local businesses to get behind talented young children in the area. Over the years, we have had a number of talented young dancers go on to top vocational schools, including The Royal Ballet School, Elmhurst Ballet School, Hammond School Chester and Trinity Laban Conservatoire in London. Our students have also appeared regularly on the TV".

To sponsor the dancers, contact Nicola Peros on 07850 741136 or email: info@nicolaperosballet.com.

Some of the young dancers who will be heading for Offenburg.

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NEW PRIEST COMES HOME TO MARGAM

IT will be a homecoming for the new priest for Margam, Father Edward Owen, who grew up in the neighbouring parish.

In fact, some of his old teachers from his childhood days at Dyffryn School are members of his new congregation.

Fr Edward will be licensed as priest-in-charge of Margam by the Assistant Bishop of Llandaff, David Wilbourne at Margam Abbey on Sunday, March 26, at 3.30pm. All are welcome.

He takes over from Father Terry Doherty, who retired two years ago after 12 years in the parish. Originally from Port Talbot, Fr Edward worked as a teacher in Swansea and Ebbw Vale before entering the priesthood at the age of 32.

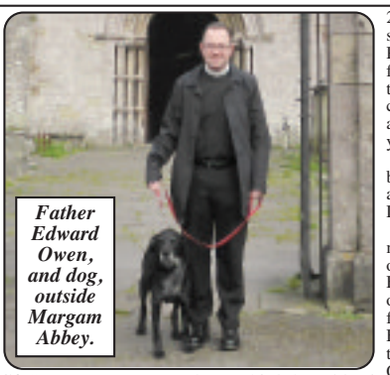
"I am absolutely delighted to be coming home after being away for 25 years," said Fr Edward, who is married to Philippa, a teacher.

A former teacher himself, Edward is looking forward to strengthening links within the local community and particularly with the schools.

As the mission priest of the Margam Pilgrimage Centre – which includes the historic Margam Stones Museum and the renowned Abbot's Kitchen – Fr Edward will also be aiming to develop use of the on-site resources.

"We will be looking to develop the educational and historic resources of the Abbey and encourage more people to visit here for things such as 'quiet days'," said Fr Edward.

"I am looking forward to renewing old friendships and making new friends as I get to know the parishioners here and help them to develop their prayer life."



Father Edward Owen, and dog, outside Margam Abbey.

Fr Edward will also be responsible for the nearby St David's Church, which will be celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2018-19.

Bishop David said, "Fr Edward, a former RE teacher, has had wide experience of both urban and rural ministry in four different contexts, and was deeply valued and loved in each and every one of them.

"Deeply prayerful, he has enabled the spiritual life of many to flourish, including a fair few who have gone on to explore their own vocation to ministry. Very personable, with a sure liturgical touch, he will be well suited to ministry in both ancient Margam Abbey and St David's, and among the people these places serve."

Fr Edward moves to Margam from Cowbridge, where he has been Team Vicar since 2013. Previously he served in the parish of Penarth and Llandough for three years and before that he was priest-in-charge at Llandyfodwg and Cwmogwr for two years.

His first post after being ordained was assistant curate at Llandaff Cathedral.

Fr Edward, who is a member of the third order of Society of St Francis – a religious order for people who follow the spirit of St Francis, also served as the Diocesan Spirituality Officer for three years until 2015.

In his spare time, he enjoys walking his dog, running, cooking and reading.

Nuclear sub plans auction boosts Barnardo's Cymru!

A BARNARDO'S charity shop is celebrating the perfect ending to the tale of nuclear submarine plans found hidden in a donated suitcase.

Bids for the cutaway plans of the £200m HMS *Trafalgar* were received from as far away as America, when they were put up for auction at the Barnardo's Cymru Porthmadog shop.

But they will be making their permanent home with Mark Rice, a submariner for 26 years, who served aboard the sub as a Warrant Officer II electrical engineer from 2007 until it was decommissioned in 2009.

It was bought for him as a surprise present by his partner Tara Burke, who rang the shop every day during the five-day auction and managed to place the winning bid of £320 with just one minute to spare – by dashing into motorway services to make the call.

Mark, who now works as a project manager in Suffolk, was overwhelmed by the gesture. "I joined the Royal Navy when I was 16 and spent my whole career on submarines, serving on five of the seven *Trafalgar* class submarines, so to get this is just amazing. I even went to the decommissioning of this particular vessel.

Tara said: " Everyone in my office knew I was bidding and it caused plenty of excitement – people were even offering to contribute to ensure I got it! It's brilliant that the money is going to Barnardo's."

Dinas Powys takes a break for Fairtrade!

Crafters enjoy a Fairtrade cuppa at White Gecko Craft Lounge.

ORGANISATIONS across Dinas Powys stopped and had a break to support farmers and workers around the world during Fairtrade Fortnight, which finished on March 12.

Local primary schools, as well as churches, businesses and the community cinema joined forces with the rest of the country, by holding Fairtrade breaks.

At the Dinas Powys Community Cinema, cinema-goers swapped their usual tipple to try Fairtrade wine from the Co-operative, and enjoyed tasting Fairtrade chocolate and snacks. Crafters at the White Gecko Craft Lounge took time off from their Japanese knot bag class to enjoy a Fairtrade cuppa.

Parents at both Dinas Powys Primary and St Andrew's Major schools were treated with presentations by pupils, as well as being offered free samples of fairtrade refreshments. At Dinas Powys Primary, Jane Hutt AM joined the fun and admired pupils' artwork on posters and bunting with the Fairtrade message.

Earlier in the fortnight, Jane Hutt organised a Fairtrade break herself, inviting along ethnic minority women and refugees from the Rainbow Group. "I was pleased to support Fairtrade Fortnight and participate in the 'I've put Fairtrade in my break' campaign." she reported.

"It is wonderful to see groups like Dinas Powys Fairtrade promoting Fairtrade locally and spreading the word about the impact buying Fairtrade products has on farmers and producers in developing countries."

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New school governors are wanted in Vale

FOLLOWING the formal agreement of plans to invest £44m in secondary schooling for Barry through the creation of two new mixed sex comprehensive schools, the Vale Council aims to appoint governing bodies for the new schools.

The proposal to establish two new schools on the current sites of Barry Comprehensive and Bryn Hafren Comprehensive schools and a joint sixth form across both was approved in March. The current single sex schools will formally close at the end of August 2018.

The decision was taken following a lengthy programme of engagement with parents, pupils, staff, governors and other professionals and the council is committed to continuing to involve as wide a range of people as possible. Two new governing bodies are being created to help achieve this.

Coun Lis Burnett, cabinet member for regeneration and education, said: "We are looking for expressions of interest from anyone who feels they can bring new skills and experience to this project and from people who feel they can reflect the views and needs of their community."

The closing date for expressions of interest is Tuesday, March 28 at 12pm. See online application details at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

SQUELCHING THROUGH MUD AND MIST OFF THE TAFF TRAIL

FOLLOWING a cancellation, Barrie from Penarth and District Ramblers stepped in to fill a gap and took his group of 11 walkers up to the Storey Arms.

Tucked below Pen y Fan – once a tavern and coaching inn – it is now an outdoor activity centre, where the group caught a bus to Brecon town.

After a pleasant journey, the group set off along Ffrwdgrech Road, following the Taff Trail past the privately-owned Held Wood, open to the public and where goose eggs were on sale.

Crossing the Nant Gwdi via Pont Ffrwd-Grech and continuing along the road, the stone-built Pont Rhyd-goch with its beautiful waterfall, where the Nant Cwm Llwch crashes down through a wooded valley, made the perfect place for morning coffee.

Heading into fields separated by neatly-cut hedges and filled with new born lambs and spectacular views across the Usk valley and up over the mist-covered Pen Milan towards the Brecon Beacons, a series of stiles led them to the bunkhouse at Penstar in the Tarell valley.

Descending the lane, past groups of young people enjoying the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, to reach Old Glanrhyd, they made a deviation off the Taff Trail by crossing the Afon Tarell into a lovely valley, which was boggy in places.

Continuing across wooden footbridges over some of the many small streams crossing the valley floor, and heading through squelchy mud to another waterfall below the footbridge, they crossed the Afon Tarell.

This led to a short climb onto the old drover's road and back uphill to their start, just as the mist was once more beginning to seep into the valleys.

On Saturday, March 25, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre, for a 10-mile moderate walk in the Tonyrefail area; contact Rachel on 01446 410545.

On March 26, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for an eight-mile moderate/hard walk taking in Y Gyrn and the Glyn Tarell Valley in the Brecon Beacons; contact Robin on 029 2051 4051.

To follow the group, log onto www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com or Facebook. Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

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Coffee boost for Mothers Union

ALL Saint's Church, Barry hosted a highly successful coffee morning on March 11.

With over 50 people in attendance during the morning, money was raised for the Mothers' Union charities through the sale of refreshments, commemorative royal wedding crockery and a popular bric-a-brac stall.

Vale MP Alun Cairns said: "Congratulations is due to all at All Saints' Church, who not only made the coffee morning thoroughly enjoyable, but also helped raised money for the Mothers' Union charities."

All Saints' Church's next fundraising event will be the Barnardo's group's 'A Touch of Irish' afternoon on Saturday, March 25, at 2pm.

'A PLACE OF SOLACE AND FUN'

Garden opens at Noah's Ark Children's Hospital

The new garden: a bright, child-friendly space.

A NEW purpose-built, specially-designed garden to provide a therapy space for children outdoors, has been opened at the Noah's Ark Children's Hospital for Wales.

It was funded by the Welsh Government and Noah's Ark charity.

Celebrations have been led by Vaughan Gething AM, Chair of Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, Maria Battle, and president and founder of the Noah's Ark charity, Lyn Jones.

Maria Battle said: "The garden is absolutely beautiful! This bright, child-friendly space will allow families to come down from the wards and play and have fun together, hopefully helping them to relax for a while at such a worrying time."

Lyn Jones said: "The Noah's Ark Garden is very much a symbol of the combined vision we had for a children's hospital for Wales from the outset – a world class paediatric facility, with the needs of children and families at its very heart.

"It's also a haven for families, who in some cases are facing long periods apart, to spend time together away from the wards.

"As a charity, we're delighted to have been able to help make the vision for this garden a reality. We hope that it will provide a place of both solace and fun for generations of children to come."

LOBBY OVER PARK HOME LEVY

THE Welsh Government is launching a consultation to consider scrapping a charge on the sale of 'park homes'.

Park home residents are required to pay commission of up to 10 per cent to the site owner – a charge which was last reviewed in 1983, when it was brought down from 15 per cent.

Leader of the Welsh Conservatives – – hosted an event in the National Assembly for Wales this week to give park home residents an opportunity to meet with AMs to discuss the issue.

It followed a rally outside the Assembly where around 100 park home residents were expected to gather to lobby ministers to scrap the charge.

Mr Davies, said: "We wouldn't accept the council charging a 10 per cent levy on the sale of our home, on top of monthly charges like council tax, so why should park home residents have to tolerate it?

"However, while the Cabinet Secretary's announcement of a consultation on scrapping is welcome, any new rules need to be thought through."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Big Birding Day

A BIG Birding Day will be held on Sunday, April 30 at Kenfig Nature Reserve, from 10am to 4pm.

There will be plenty of events including guided bird walks, a bird ringing demonstration, help with bird ID, making bird feeders, childrens' activities plus book, cake and plant stalls. All welcome.

Spring fayre

WINDSOR Bowling Club are holding their spring fayre on Saturday, April 1 at the clubhouse in Robinswood Crescent, Penarth, starting at 10am.

Entrance is £1.50 to include a coffee or tea and a hot cross bun. There will be lots of stalls: cakes, bottles, plants, books, jewellery and toiletries, raffle, games and a lucky dip; all welcome.

Spring clean your wardrobe with Samantha B!

AT Samantha B, we have been very busy with the new spring/summer season and so far, we have sold out of five styles already!

As we start to think of spring/summer (difficult at the moment as it's so cold!), we may turn our attention to whether you want a complete new summer wardrobe, or just need to replace certain items, such as the classic white t-shirt or a new pair of crops.

It's really exciting to see all the lovely fresh colours; classic navy, vibrant lime and pastel pink to name a few.

Bianca, thoughtful as ever, has delivered a collection of beautifully tailored trousers, dresses and this season's must have – a floral bomber jacket – feminine without being froufrou, we love it!

Marble have pulled out all the stops too, fabulous colours in their famous ankle grazers; lime green, pastel pink and cerise, along with classic navy and lovely neutrals.

Marble are not just known for their jeans, they also have lovely summer knits, figure-flattering palazzo pants, maxi dresses and skirts.

We have also thought of the 'April showers' and have a lovely selection of showerproof jackets in navy, lime, pastel lilac, reds – a great way to finish off any outfit.

If you're lucky enough to be going away, we also have some very pretty Pac A Macs.

As ever we have all our favourite labels: adini, Olsen, Brandtex, signature, Fransa, David Barry coats, as well as a couple of new labels – what are you waiting for?

If you fancy supporting different charities, we are holding fashion shows at Peterson-super-Ely on March 24; Costa Coffee on March 31 for the Scouts and St Athan Golf Club on April 6.

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Ty Llandaff and Rotary Club team up for Woody's Lodge

Home care manager Janice Evans receives the contributions from Rotary Club's Jill Osbourne. Photograph by Mike Deardon

LUXURY Cardiff care home Tŷ Llandaff and the Rotary Club of Barry have teamed up to raise money for a military charity.

Tŷ Llandaff, which opened in December, invited 15 members from the Rotary Club to the multi-million pound care home in Conway Road, Pontcanna for the charity fundraiser, as part of its aim to build links with the local community.

Barry Rotary Club were given an exclusive tour of the care home's fabulous facilities, which include a home cinema, hair and nail salon and piano bar, before sitting down and enjoying a sumptuous three-course dinner.

The evening was hosted by Tŷ Llandaff care home manager Janice Evans, office manager Elaine Bates and Eirwen Jones, wife of one of the care home's residents.

Tŷ Llandaff specialises in residential, nursing and respite care and its chosen charity for the evening was Woody's Lodge, which was set up in 2016 by six veterans and one civilian.

It is named after Woody, a member of the Special Boat Service (SBS), who died in October 2012 during a training exercise preparing for deployment to Afghanistan.

The charity supports local veterans residing in Cardiff and Barry, many of whom are facing welfare, health and social problems.

Rotary Club president-elect, Jill Osbourne, rounded off the charity dinner by presenting sealed gold envelopes from each dining table, full of contributions totalling £135 to Janice.

Janice said: "Tŷ Llandaff is proud to support nominated charity Woody's Lodge for 2017. They offer a wonderful service to ex-servicemen and women including companionship and direct signposting to agencies and organisations that require skilled support.

"The charity fundraising evening was thoroughly enjoyable and it was a wonderful opportunity for us to team up with the Rotary Club of Barry who carries out some tremendous work supporting local people young and old in the community."

For more information about Tŷ Llandaff, call Janice on 02920 600 100, email info@ tyllandaffcare.com

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The Search and Rescue team seeks your vote!

THE Western Beacons Mountain Search and Rescue Team is calling for the public to vote for them – to secure funding for the Western Beacons Water Safety Project.

The project is one of five in ITV Wales region competing for National Lottery funding in the 2017 People's Projects competition.

The Big Lottery Fund, ITV and The National Lottery have teamed up to give the UK public the chance to decide how £3 million of National Lottery funding will make a difference in their local area. The three projects with the most public votes will receive grants of up to £50,000.

On Friday, March 24, ITV Wales will showcase the Western Beacons Water Safety Project at 6pm.

The team is a volunteer organisation and registered charity that responds 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to requests from police to mount search and rescue operations.

Michael Jeffery, deputy team leader , said: "Being chosen as a good cause to receive funding from the People's Project is vital to getting our project underway. On average, every 20 hours in the UK someone drowns, while hundreds more suffer life-changing injuries through near drowning each year.

"With this funding, we can help reduce those numbers and increase our capability to respond to such incidents when they happen."

Voting closes at noon on Monday, April 3.

For more information, visit www.the peoplesprojects.org.uk.

glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Queen's Baton Relay has three local stages

AS part of this year's Commonwealth Day celebrations, the Queen set the Gold Coast 2018 Queen's Baton Relay in motion during a launch ceremony at Buckingham Palace.

Team Wales announced that the Baton will visit several places in Wales in September, including Bridgend, Barry, and the Royal Mint in Llantrisant, during its 388-day journey through the entire Commonwealth.

In total, the Baton will cover nearly 143,000 miless en route to its final destination, the opening ceremony of the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games on April 4, 2018.

Chris Jenkins, Commonwealth Games Wales chief executive, said: "We're extremely proud to announce this route.

"Team Wales brings together all those competing or supporting our athletes to perform to their absolute best at the Commonwealth Games. This inclusive relay will give everyone that can't make it to the Gold Coast a chance to be involved in an unforgettable experience.

"As the baton travels through Wales, our aim is to celebrate our rich and diverse heritage, culture, language and landscape on an international stage. The first day of the Welsh route will see the baton setting off from Swansea, travelling to our sponsor CGI's offices in Bridgend, and then on to Barry Island and Butetown in Cardiff."

The Welsh leg of the Queen's Baton Relay begins in Swansea on September 5.

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Purple plaque puts inspiring women in their rightful place

Jane Hutt AM at the launch of the purple plaques scheme with Anne Cox, Sue Essex and Assembly Members, Ann Jones, Jayne Bryant, Bethan Jenkins, Hannah Blythin, Julie Morgan, Dawn Bowden, Jenny Rathbone, Julie James, Joyce Watson, Rhiannon Passmore, and Eluned Morgan, with a photograph of Val Feld.

ON International Women's Day, March 8, Jane Hutt AM joined fellow AMs in the newly-formed Assembly Labour Women's Group to launch a bid for improved recognition of Wales' influential women.

Across Wales, the overwhelming majority of blue plaques highlight men's achievements – with the local exception of Dorothy Rees - the first woman MP for Barry. So the group came up with the idea of acknowledging the achievements of women via purple plaques.

The first plaque will recognise the work of women's rights campaigner, former director of Shelter Cymru and the Equal Opportunities Commission Wales and admired former Swansea East AM, Val Feld, who died in 2001.

Jane Hutt said: "There have been so many remarkable, inspiring women in Wales who've contributed greatly in fields from politics to science to literature. It's entirely right they should be publicly acknowledged and the purple plaque scheme will do a great deal to encourage this.

"In the Vale of Glamorgan and Barry alone, there have been so many influential women that the Vale Council launched a trail in 2013 to commemorate their achievements.

"Indeed, I recently presented the Audrey Jones awards at the Wales Assembly of Women conference – Audrey was one of our many influential Vale women – an inspiring teacher and courageous women's rights campaigner."

Vale Resort wins top 59Club award (again)

From left: Hayley Prior, Joanna Church and Louise Powell.

THE health and racquets club at the Vale Resort, Hensol, is celebrating another win at the 59Club Service Excellence Awards, after scooping best 'leisure membership sales team' for the fourth time in five years.

The team were once again named among the best in the customer service industry at the annual ceremony for 2016/17, having previously won the award in 2012, 2014 and 2015.

The Vale Resort was one of six nominated in the category, beating off competition from the likes of the Celtic Manor Resort, Cranleigh Golf and Country Club, Stoke Park, Dubai Creek Golf and Yacht Club and Emirates Golf Club.

Joanna Church, leisure operations manager, who collected the award on behalf of the Resort, said: "We are absolutely delighted and overwhelmed to have picked up the award for the fourth time in five years.

"It means the world to each and every member of our team, who are passionate and dedicated to providing our customers with first-class service.

"Joining the 59Club was a fantastic decision for us. Its criteria has undoubtedly boosted our sales capacity and we've seen an increase in membership since we joined five years ago.

"Making sure our members feel valued and looked after is pivotal to everything we do here at the Vale Resort, so when a new member of staff joins they are put through a comprehensive induction programme that ensures everyone who walks through our doors is treated like a mystery customer.

"These awards keep us focused. We certainly have no intention of giving up our title easily."

Flowers are key to bees' survival

Bombus pascuorum (common carder bee) foraging on red clover. Photograph by Claire Carvell

NEW research led by the UK's Centre for Ecology and Hydrology says that flower-rich habitats are key to enhancing the survival of bumblebees.

The results, which come from the largest-ever study of its kind on wild bumblebee populations, will help farmers and policy makers manage the countryside more effectively to provide for these vital, but declining, pollinators.

The new study, published in the journal *Nature*, used DNA technology and remote sensing to identify, map and track mother, daughter and sister bumblebees over two years to reveal that access to a range of pollen and nectar-rich flowers is vital to the survival of their populations.

There's a warm welcome to Sunday lunch at the Sully Sports & Social Club

DINING FEATURE by TIM CHAPMAN

SUNDAY lunch is a great British tradition, a time in the week for a family get-together – and it's even better if someone else prepares it and gives mum a well-deserved day off.

At Sully Sports & Social Club, 'Peter Froud Catering' provides Sunday lunch and there is a real family atmosphere in the club's original building, which boasts magnificent views across the Bristol Channel.

Recently, my wife and I enjoyed Sunday lunch, courtesy of Peter and his parents, Jules and Mike, who are very much a part of the family concern.

We were greeted warmly by Jules. who showed us to our table and explained that we could choose anything we wanted at the carvery.

Sunday lunch is £8.95 for a main course (two different meats if you wish) and you can help yourself to generous servings of roasties, greens and other vegetables. If you want a third kind of meat, it is just another £1.

I enjoyed the roast beef and Yorkshire pudding and the rich gravy. My wife decided to have turkey and pork, which she said was very tasty. As we ate our meal, it was nice to see families with people of all ages meeting up for Sunday lunch. Sully residents are lucky to have the facility on their doorstep.

Some local people turn up with plates for their lunch to be 'dished up' and taken home.

Peter is particularly proud – and rightly so – of his desserts, which are all home made. There was 'apple pie of the day', de luxe sponge puddings: for example 'lemon drizzle sponge', 'cherry and almond fudge sponge', 'toffee, chocolate and syrup sponge' all served with either cream, custard or ice-cream.

Peter also makes home-made cheesecakes, and he experiments with different flavours each week.

I enjoyed Belgian waffle with cream and ice-cream – fantastic! My wife had toffee fudge cheesecake which she said was lovely and creamy, and tasted great. Desserts run at between £3.50 and £3.95.

(The bar was open for a glass of wine, a soft drink or a beer to go with your meal.)

The Froud family and their attentive members of staff made it all an enjoyable experience.

Why not treat your mum to a day out this Mother's Day, March 26?

Peter's company also caters for weddings, engagement parties, birthdays and other special occasions. He can be contacted on 07825 604 841; www.peterfroudcatering.co.uk; or find the company on Facebook.

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Parking rethink for new homes plan

PROPOSALS for the latest development of new council homes for the Vale are being refined, following a consultation event held in Barry earlier this month.

The redevelopment of the old Brecon Court sheltered housing site will provide purpose-built homes for those who most need them.

Current proposals will see the construction of nine two-bedroom houses, four three-bedroom family houses, and 15 one-bedroom apartments reserved for older people. All of the new homes will be constructed to Welsh Government standards for social housing.

To help shape the final design of the homes, local residents were invited to a consultation event at Jenner Park on March 8.

A spokesperson for the council's housing team said: "Those who attended were generally supportive of the scheme, but raised some concerns about parking during events at the stadium. With this in mind, we will now look at amending the layout of the development to provide more car parking.

"We plan to hold a further consultation event later this year, where we hope to be able to present final plans for the scheme."

Demolition of the old sheltered accommodation at Brecon Court began in February and is likely to be completed in late spring.

Leekes win Retailer of the year award

Emma Leeke, Joanna Littlejohn and Chris Leeke receive the award.

LEEKES have been named Retailer of the Year at the prestigious Cardiff Life Awards after applying for the first time.

The family-owned retailer was recognised at the recent award ceremony, held at City Hall in Cardiff with managing director Emma Leeke proudly receiving the accolade on behalf of the company.

The awards highlight the best in local business and in making the decision between Leekes and the seven other retailer finalists, the judges recognised the company as "a true family business that has gone from strength-to-strength long term.

"Leekes are thriving and making an important contribution to the local economy."

Emma Leeke commented: "We're delighted to have been announced as winners in an extremely competitive field, as we celebrate our 120th anniversary of trading as an independent family business.

"We are very proud of the work of our teams and this award is a recognition of the dedication and commitment of our whole team."

From its humble beginnings in the front room of the family home in Clydach Vale, Leekes now have 1,000 employees.

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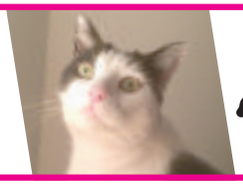

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Fun at the fete!

CATS Protection's Bridgend Adoption Centre is hosting an Eggstravaganza fete at the centre on Saturday, April 8.

Running from 11 am – 1pm it promises to be a fun-filled day for all the family. As well as a variety of stalls to appeal to all ages, visitors can treat themselves to delicious home-made cakes from the bake sale or join in a range of exciting activities such as Easter egg hunt, tombola, guess the weight of the cake, children's corner and much more.

Sue Dobbs, centre manager, said: "The fete is a great opportunity to have some fun while supporting the charity, which finds new homes for the many unwanted and abandoned cats that come into its care. Entry is £1 per adult, 50p per child, three and under free – so please come along and give us your support!"

Staff and volunteers from the centre will be dressing up in fancy dress to help raise funds for the charity, and also selling raffle tickets to win a range of fabulous prizes.

The centre is currently caring for 80 cats and is looking for loving homes locally.

To find out more about the fair, or to offer a cat a home, call the centre on 01656 726621, or visit the website at ***www.bridgend.cats.org.uk***

Posh Pawz would like to introduce Maddie Davies

ABOVE: Maddie with client.

MADDIE has been working with Kath and Jo of Posh Pawz, Rhoose, for almost a year bathing and drying, and is now taking appointments.

She has recently completed her grooming course at Pencoed College, and the salon are very happy that she will be developing her skills further with them.

Training grooms will be available from February 1 – 20 per cent off first appointment, and if you book and attend a second appointment with Maddie, there is a 15 per cent discount – full groom prices thereafter; only open at the moment to certain breeds. This offer is available to new, existing, and returning clients.

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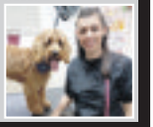

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Established in April 2010, we are about to celebrate the start of our eighth year and what a great month to celebrate – along with National Pet Month.

As part of our celebrations, we would like to thank all our friends and family and everyone who has helped to make our pet care business a success.

The business was launched after studying animal care for three years and, having worked in various animal establishments, we decided to set up the business.

Over the last eight years, business has grown and grown, we now have two staff members, Natalie and Jade.

Rachel said: "Having had pets all my life – I currently have a nine-year-old boxer – I know how important it is to find the best possible care for your pets when you're not there, and this is why I set up Rachel's pet care services."

The pet care services on offer include:

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LEFT: Winston, the ball-obsessed Boxer, is one of the team at Rachel's Pet Care Services.

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WEST FARM is a well-established, small animal veterinary practice in the heart of Cowbridge.

The practice is owned by Stefano and Sonia Susanna, who purchased the clinic in January 2001.

Assistant veterinary surgeon, Emma Powell, joined the practice in June 2016, from an exotic practice in the Midlands, and has a special interest in exotic birds and reptiles.

Everyone at the practice is committed to providing the very best healthcare for pets.

They aim to provide an excellent service offering high-quality veterinary medicine and surgery to all clients.

(See West Farm's doggie friends on page 20!)

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Judie with Tucker, Caroline and Katy and Sky.

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The staff are friendly and obviously firm dog lovers! Judie, the owner, has five dogs, three of which are rescue dogs.

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Sig and Viv's have made it their mission to provide only quality, natural pet food made with the very best ingredients to nourish healthier, happy pets.

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LEFT: Bleddyn, one of Maes Glas Vets' friendly team of veterinary surgeons, enjoys a photo shoot with the practice's star cat, Basil!

Stefano and Sonia Susanna of West Farm Veterinary Practice captured this lovely image – 'Let sleeping dogs lie!'

Blue Ridge Canine Academy

'It's our ball, get your own'.

Vets open sixth branch

MAES GLAS VETS now have six branches – the brand new Cowbridge branch, Bridgend hospital, and branches in Barry, Llantrisant, Pencoed and Porthcawl.

The dedicated staff offer everything from routine booster vaccinations, health checks and neutering to more specialist surgeries, imaging, physiotherapy and behaviour consultations.

One of the real stars of the show at Maes Glas is Basil, the practice cat, who writes Basil's Blog on their Facebook page – without any human help!

In addition to Basil, the staff all have pets of their own.

They said: "We know how important your furry family members are, so whatever your pet needs, we can help."

Contact Maes Glas Vets on maesglasvets@yahoo.co.uk.

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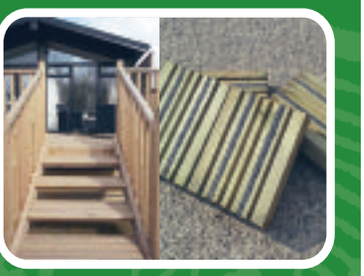

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Mike Hughes DipWCF, who was brought up with horses and ponies, is interested in modern remedial techniques and is currently studying for his BSc(Hons) Farriery at Myerscough College.

Rory Hill DipWCF, the youngest of the team, is familiar with the more recent developments in shoeing and shoemaking.

All work extensively with the local veterinary practices, and all three are registered with the Farriers Registration Council.

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Brian & Mike Hughes, Rory Hill

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Local residents to fight four-storey high telephone mast on the Knap

A twelve-and-a-half metre high telephone mast has been proposed for the Knap area of Barry only days after local residents defeated similar plans in the Garden Suburb.

It is to be sited on the pavement next to the Knap's small parade of shops and restaurants on Bron-Y-Mor.

Victoria Roberts, one of the residents who successfully fought the plans for a mast in the nearby Garden Suburb, is determined to prevent the mast being built at the Knap.

The local teacher has joined forces with Knap resident and former community policeman Paul James to defeat the plans by putting pressure on the Vale of Glamorgan Council to once more refuse to lease land for the installation.

Paul James and Victoria Roberts are also ready to fight the mast through the planning system, and will be encouraging local objections to the proposal. They will also be standing for election to the Vale Council as Welsh Conservative candidates to, as they put it, "stand up for the local area and stop communities being ignored."

Mr James said, "As a Knap resident, I know that local people share my concerns at the proposed location of this new telephone mast. We need strong telecommunications infrastructure in the Vale, but it is clear that the pavement outside the shops at the Knap is a deeply inappropriate location.

"It is plain common sense that this mast will need to be located elsewhere, and I am determined to work with Victoria Roberts to ensure that this is the case."

Mrs Roberts said, "The Knap is one of the prettiest and most characterful communities in South Wales. The siting of a mobile phone mast right outside the row of shops overlooking the lake is wrong and will need to be stopped.

"The Council saw sense and refused the lease for the previous site following the local campaign – I am calling on them to do the same thing in this instance."

ABOVE: Paul James and Victoria Roberts on Bron-Y-Mor, the proposed site of the mast.

Vale MP: Only the Conservatives can secure a Dinas Powys by-pass

ABOVE: Dinas Powys Conservatives Andy Robertson, Vince Driscoll, Stephen Griffiths and Rob Crowley are petitioning week-in, week-out for a by-pass.

ONLY a Conservative-led Vale Council can deliver a Dinas Powys by-pass, according to Vale MP Alun Cairns.

Mr Cairns is a long-standing campaigner for the by-pass and, alongside Welsh Tory leader Andrew RT Davies, he has been making the case for the road to the Welsh Government.

For a by-pass to be built, the project would have to have the financial backing of the Welsh Government in Cardiff Bay and the support of the Vale of Glamorgan Council in Barry.

At the end of last year, the Welsh Government surprised by-pass campaigners by taking a more positive approach to the project, with infrastructure minister Ken Skates saying that the Welsh Government would be happy to 'play a part in facilitating a solution'.

The Labour-led Vale of Glamorgan Council however, has been hostile to the project, stating that '...(the by-pass) is not considered to be required'. The Council has also suggested that congestion issues in Dinas Powys were best solved by increased cycling and use of public transport.

Vale MP Alun Cairns said, "For the by-pass to be built, we require the backing of both the Vale Council and the Welsh Government. There is no prospect of the by-pass going ahead without a Vale of Glamorgan Council that is demanding funding for the road from the Welsh Government.

"Only a Conservative Vale Council will do this. Labour don't want to and Plaid Cymru can't take control of the Council.

"The Welsh Conservatives have made clear that we back a by-pass, with the pledge to build it appearing in our manifesto for the last Welsh Assembly election.

"I urge people in Dinas Powys to vote for the local Conservative team who are already working hard for a by-pass by petitioning for one week-in, week out.

"After the elections in May, the Vale Council will either be controlled by the Conservatives or Labour. Only a vote for the Conservatives will help to secure the by-pass."

'Excessive and inappropriate development risks the future of the Vale'

A 'tragedy' like Darren Farm 'must not be allowed to happen again' say Tories

COWBRIDGE councillors Geoff Cox, Hunter Jarvie and Andrew Parker have voiced their determination to counter "inappropriate and excessive development" as part of a Conservative administration in the Vale of Glamorgan.

The three Conservative councillors had objected to every stage of the controversial Darren Farm development, which they regard as a prime example of 'inappropriate development'.

The Darren Farm building plans were pushed through by the Labour-led Vale Council as a response to the Labour-led Welsh Government's building target of 10,000 new Vale dwellings over the decade. The development is now underway.

Mr Cox, Mr Jarvie and Mr Parker have said that Darren Farm is a consequence of poor decision-making in the Council and excessive top-down targets for the Vale from the Welsh Government.

They intend to help to form a Conservative Vale Council this May which will 'push back' against the Labour Welsh Government when they feel the Vale has been 'treated unfairly', as in the case of the 10,000 housing target. A Conservative council would also 'seek to help communities to grow on a more organic basis, to meet the local need, with input from local people and with greater sympathy to local surroundings.'

The Cowbridge councillors commented that local people have become increasingly concerned for the future of the rural Vale of Glamorgan following the start of building work at Darren Farm.

Coun Geoff Cox said, "Local people have been dismayed to see the damage to the local area that has accompanied Labour's ill-conceived development plans in Cowbridge and the surrounding villages.

"The premature destruction of hedgerows at Darren Farm, an irreplaceable part of our heritage, has demonstrated the lack of care with which the countryside is treated by this Labour Council.

"People are also highly concerned about the impact that the development will have in terms of traffic and parking in Cowbridge.

"We need to form a Conservative Vale Council at the election in May to counter the excessive and inappropriate development that so threatens the rural way of life in the Vale."

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Ceidwadwyr Cymreig | Welsh Conservatives

Barry trio are determined to improve the appearance of their area

Marguerita Wright, Tony Hampton and Janice Charles clean up with Alun Cairns MP

Prospective Conservative councillors Janice Charles, Tony Hampton and Marguerita Wright have said that they are 'determined to improve the appearance' of the Illtyd ward in Barry, which they feel has been 'neglected' by Labour councillors.

The Illtyd ward contains parts of North and West Barry, stretching from Broad Street in the south to parts of Highlight Park.

The local campaigners worry that some of the basic elements of upkeep in that part of Barry have been ignored. Marguerita Wright said, "There are numerous visual improvements to be carried out in the ward and we are working vigorously to report the many potholes, faded road markings, run down bus shelters, missing or damaged street signs, blocked drains, graffiti, dog fouling, litter and fly-tipping.

"We have already been successful on several improvements. Queen Street and Island Road have been totally re-surfaced and drains unblocked. Many street signs have been replaced and the bus shelter on Severn Avenue has been re-glazed.

"We will be able to go even further to solve these local issues as councillors."

Campaigner Tony Hampton expressed disappointment that the sitting Labour councillors 'have not done more to address issues in the local area'.

Paul James and Victoria Roberts call for seagull-proof bin bag trial

As the seagull breeding season approaches, Barry is bracing itself for litter strewn streets as the birds increase their activity in search of food. Community campaigners Paul James and Victoria Roberts, Conservative candidates for the Council elections in May, are calling for a solution.

Many residential streets in coastal communities across the Vale have experienced problems in the past with seagulls opening bin bags, filling the surrounding area with rubbish. Mr James and Mrs Roberts have suggested that the solution might be 'seagull-proof' bin bags.

They are calling on the Vale Council to trial these special sacks in certain areas over a limited period of time to see if the problem is significantly reduced.

Paul James, a former community policeman in Barry, said, "There are complaints about seagull related litter every year, it is a real annoyance to local people who rightly take pride in the appearance of their community. Many residents have spent hours cleaning up their streets after these birds strike through bags."

Victoria Roberts, a local teacher and community campaigner, said, "It is well worth trialling these bin-bags to see if they can reduce the problem. This is the sort of pro-active step that the Council should be taking to try to solve recurring issues."

Paul James and Victoria Roberts want to keep Barry tidy

Local man to 'fight for village life' in Peterston-Super-Ely

Michael Morgan

A Peterston-Super-Ely man is to stand for the Vale Council on a platform of 'preserving village life'.

Michael Morgan, who is seeking to represent the electoral division containing Peterston, St Brides, St Georges, Pendoylan and Welsh St Donats, is steeped in 'village life' having worked as a solicitor locally for thirty years and through serving as a community councillor and a parochial church councillor.

He is concerned that many older Vale residents in rural areas may no longer be able to enjoy village life due to a lack of facilities, and have their quality of life and safety impaired by the increasing volume and speed traffic through villages. Michael wants to improve traffic control measures and local support for the elderly.

Stewart Edwards to tackle traffic in St Brides Major and beyond

Stewart Edwards is campaigning for safer villages

St Brides Major agricultural supplies entrepreneur Stewart Edwards is campaigning for safer roads in the village and the surrounding area

He is concerned that the speed, and in many cases the size, of traffic is 'putting local people in danger.'

Mr Edwards wants to ensure that those transporting raw materials through the village to and from the cement works at Aberthaw honour their agreement with Vale MP Alun Cairns to avoid school pick up and drop-off times.

The local businessman is standing at the Vale Council election in May, and intends to use this platform to tackle the issue of traffic that is blighting Vale communities.

Christine Cave: 'Let's keep up the momentum for better broadband'

Campaigners (right) celebrate fast broadband for Llandow with residents (left)

Christine Cave, a local community campaigner from Llandow, has expressed a desire to see 'every village in the Vale' connected to fast fibre broadband.

Mrs Cave recently celebrated Llandow's access to superfast broadband speeds with Vale MP Alun Cairns and local residents. She is determined to work with the MP to push for as much broadband cover as possible in the Western Vale.

She said, "Fast broadband is no longer a luxury, but an essential in modern life. Alun Cairns and the UK Government have already done so much to ensure access to this crucial service here in the Vale and around the country. I'm determined to keep pushing alongside him so that nowhere in the Vale goes without."

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'Time to back the High Street' say campaigners

Janice Charles, Tony Hampton and Marguerita Wright are determined to protect High Streets

High Streets in Barry and across the Vale 'must be championed by the Council' according to local Conservatives, who worry that the future of the local shopping parades will be 'threatened' by another Labour-led Vale Council after May.

Janice Charles, Tony Hampton and Marguerita Wright, Conservative local election candidates in Barry, fear that Labour Vale councillors may bring back their plans to charge for car-parking in town centres and drive away trade.

Janice Charles said, "The Council must unequivocally champion High Streets, instead of threatening their future with car parking charges.

"We are encouraging local people to use their High Street, and would rule out introducing town-centre car-parking charges in the Vale.

"High Streets are not only the backbone of the local economy, but cherished local institutions. We know that in a changing economy, we must do all we can to protect them for future generations."

Vale villages like Wick are 'starved of local authority investment'

Stewart Edwards wants more support for communities

St Brides-based businessman Stewart Edwards has criticised the Vale Council for 'failing to invest in Vale villages'.

Mr Edwards, a prominent local figure in the West of the Vale of Glamorgan, has announced that he is to stand in the upcoming elections to the Vale Council to 'reverse the lack of rural investment' and to 'secure a better future for local communities'.

He said, "Villages such as Wick, Ogmore, St Brides and Southerndown have been deprived of facilities that are availble elsewhere, such as modern play equipment, and most importantly, community space.

"Having lived and worked in the Vale for over forty five years I feel lucky to be part of a place with such strong communities. It is disappointing that these communities are not adequately supported. For example, not enough has been done by the Council to support the fantastic Sue Lewis who is spearheading the effort for a new community centre in Ogmore.

"I want to be elected to the Vale Council to change this, and to make sure that we have a local authority that supports community life and invests in every part of the county."

Eagleswell school to become housing estate

Llantwit Conservatives want to retain the green space at Eagleswell

Llantwit Major Conservatives have accused the 'Llantwit First' Party in close coalition with Labour on the Vale Council, of adding insult to injury by preparing to build 72 houses on the Eagleswell school site.

The Labour and 'Llantwit First' controlled Vale of Glamorgan Council took the controversial decision to close Eagleswell School in 2014 and were met with local protests as a result.

Llantwit Conservatives believe that the green space in the school grounds and playing fields should be retained for the community, and have called the decision to close and sell the school for housing a 'double blow' against local people.

Coun Tony Bennett from the Llantwit Conservatives said, "We are urging the Vale of Glamorgan Council to maximise the benefits of the vacated site for Llantwit and its residents.

"Of prime concern, is the retention of at least part of the site as green space, in an area that is desperately short of amenity land. If there is to be development the views of residents living adjacent to the site should be paramount and they will be consulted accordingly."

Conservative campaigner John Deakin added, "Rather than building conventional housing, it would perhaps be beneficial to allocate some of the space to retirement or assisted living accommodation to provide suitable homes for those in need of support. This would alleviate the need for the provision of costly and increasingly scarce residential care, with the consequent significant cost savings."

Conservative Council candidate Gordon Wilkie added, " Should Llantwit Major Conservative councillors find ourselves controlling the council next May, we will instigate a full consultation process, prior to any development of this valuable site."

BONVILSTON HIT WITH 'POOR PLANNING DECISION'

The village of Bonvilston is to be 'hugely expanded to the detriment of local people' according to Councillor Jonathan Bird of Wenvoe. His comments followed a decision by Labour councillors to give the green light to 120 new houses off Pendoylan Lane at Sycamore Cross.

Coun Jonathan Bird, who voted against the development, said he was 'shocked by the disregard for the impact on the community shown by Labour councillors at last week's planning committee meeting.

Coun Bird, a prominent local campaigner against over-development, argued that the plans do not meet local need and would alter the historic character of the village.

He also spoke strongly against the Council's failure to require enough cash from the developers for education, community infrastructure, local transport and affordable housing.

Coun Bird said, "Developers are struggling to sell properties in similar new estates nearby, demonstrating that this plan is excessive.

"It is outrageous that the Vale Council reduced the contributions required from the developers by nearly £1 million and halved the number of mandatory affordable homes.

"The Labour Vale Council have rushed through this decision ahead of the elections in May, to deny people in Bonvilston and across county the chance to have their say on over-development.

"We need a new Council administration that will build sensibly, on the basis of local need, instead of this target chasing."

Vale MP Alun Cairns said: "Labour's decision to go ahead with this excessive and inappropriate development is bad enough, to sweeten the deal at the expense of the local community is totally unacceptable.

"Wenvoe and the surrounding villages are lucky to have such a determined and straight talking councillor as Jon Bird. If Labour lose their majority on the Vale Council, he will be able to push his plans to improve traffic management and quality of life in the local area.

"Importantly, he will also be better able to ensure common sense prevails when it comes to development."

Coun Jon Bird with Alun Cairns MP at Sycamore Cross

VAN DEN BROM AND TURNER: "SAVE ST PAULS"

St Paul's Church 'has been left to deteriorate' by the Labour-run Vale Council after it was first declared unsafe in 2011, according to community campaigners.

The Council is now proposing a deal with a housing association to convert St Paul's into apartments, with limited provisions for community use.

Wendy Van Den Brom and Martin Turner, local council candidates, have described St Paul's as a "community asset" and want to see the church act as a dedicated community centre for local groups.

Mrs Van Den Brom said: "This will be a disappointing loss for local people.

"The Council has the ability to secure St Paul's future for the benefit of all residents rather than selling our community assets to the highest bidder."

Local Conservatives say "St Paul's is a community asset"

Vale roads and pavements 'must be fixed'

Penarth's Ben Gray has concerns about the state of roads and pavements.

Motorists across the Vale have been left 'increasingly frustrated' by the state of local roads as the 'Labour-run Council fails to properly maintain our highways, despite higher council tax', according to Penarth Conservatives.

Penarth Conservative candidates Ben Gray and Kathryn McCaffer are campaigning for a comprehensive survey of Penarth's roads and the creation of a programme to repair them.

Mrs McCaffer said: "The Council's appalling job of maintaining our local roads is really showing.

"Ben and I are also concerned by the risks posed to pedestrians from loose paving.

"Despite our Council Tax bills going up, nothing is being done to get on top of the problem.

"If the Conservatives take control of the Council in May, we will create a fund to resurface roads instead of relying on merely patching them up."

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Mathew Lloyd and Gordon Kemp: 'We will deliver better transport for Rhoose'

Rhoose community activists Mathew Lloyd and Gordon Kemp, both standing as Conservative candidates for the Vale Council in May, have set out their plan to improve transport in the village.

Mr Lloyd and Mr Kemp are calling for funds used for the T9 airport express bus to be diverted to local bus routes and for an increase in the number of trains per hour arriving and departing the local railway station.

The T9 service is often called the 'Ghost Bus' or the 'M'T9 within the Vale of Glamorgan as a result its regularly low passenger numbers. Controversially, the Labour Welsh Government reduced subsidies for local bus services at the same time as increasing spending on the T9.

Mr Lloyd has described the situation as 'beyond a joke'. He said, "The T9 might be amusingly dubbed the 'Ghost Bus' or the 'M'T9, but the situation for Rhoose residents is now beyond a joke. While the T9s trundle along empty every half hour, many of the residents of Rhoose and surrounding villages including Llancarfan are not able to access a bus service at all. Residents are rightly fed up and demanding that money is prioritised and spent on local services.

"Residents who need to use public transport, particularly the elderly, find it difficult to access services, leaving them isolated and vulnerable. Labour's decision to cut local bus subsidies and splurge on the T9 must be reversed."

This view is echoed by fellow candidate Gordon Kemp who said, "The money spent on the T9 service should be diverted into providing improved transportation services for residents."

Gordon Kemp confirmed, "If elected, we will do everything we can to make sure the money currently wasted on the T9 is used effectively to provide local bus services where they are needed.

"We also want to seek an expansion of the of the train service to and from Rhoose. At the moment there is only one train an hour.

"Whilst the opening of the Vale Line during a time when the Vale Council was run by the Conservatives has been a great benefit to the village, we now need to increase the frequency of the service, particularly at peak times for commuters."

'Scrap the T9 and restore local bus services' *say Dyfan Conservatives*

ABOVE:
Andrew RT Davies is backing Mr Rowlands and Mr Bailey to restore the 98 bus service by scrapping the T9.

THE WELSH Government has been challenged to scrap the subsidy for the T9 Airport Express - with the additional money being used to restore regular services on the 98 bus in Barry, as well as other routes in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Every year the Welsh Labour Government spends half a million pounds on the T9 and despite frequently running along Port Road with no passengers, Labour ministers claim that numbers are on the rise. It has prompted new calls from Dyfan Conservatives for the subsidy to be scrapped, with that money used to subsidise a more regular service on the 98 route.

Vincent Bailey said: "If the T9 is so successful then the Welsh Labour Government can scrap the half a million pounds in subsidies that keeps it running every year, and put that money back into local services.

"We want to see regular services restored on the 98 route, which has been decimated in recent years. They need to stop wasting money on the Empty 9."

Leighton Rowlands said: "Last year the Labour-run council cut the budget for supported bus services by 12.4%, leaving local commuters with a skeletal service.

"Those cuts affect the most vulnerable people in our society, and make life a misery for commuters. You have to question the cost of this service when support for more essential services is being slashed."

'Sully ignored by Vale Council but paying through the nose' *say local campaigners*

Conservative community campaigners in Sully, Chris Thorne and Rod Thomas have hit out at the Labour-led Vale Council and the sitting councillors in Sully for 'failing to deliver a good deal for local people'.

Mr Thorne said, "The Labour-run Vale of Glamorgan Council has inflicted another inflation-busting council tax hike on local residents in Sully, Cosmeston, Lavernock and Swanbridge - this time 2.8%.

"Leader of the Vale Council – Cllr Neil Moore – has also recently outlined the 'legacy' of his Labour-run Council and sadly not one of his listed 'achievements' involved delivering for the residents and community of Sully, Cosmeston, Lavernock and Swanbridge.

"Unfortunately, what the Labour-run Council has delivered the community is a whopping 20% increase in council tax since 2012 leaving local residents rightly questioning what they have got for in return."

Rod Thomas said: "Time and time again our community has been ignored and little has been done over the last five years to improve our area.

"When you reflect, the travellers remain in situ at Hayes Road despite the broken promises of our ex-UKIP/Independent councillors, our public services are stretched beyond recognition and our transport and infrastructure is in a state of complete disrepair.

"So while Cllr Moore and the ex-UKIP/Independent musketeers might be happy with their achievements, residents in our community will not appreciate the past five years where we've been simply treated as an afterthought."

St Athan, an accident waiting to happen?

Coun Thomas at the zebra crossing in St Athan village

COUNCILLOR John Thomas is pushing a campaign to make the village safer for pedestrians after a number of reported 'near misses' at the zebra crossing.

A recent survey carried out by St Athan Community Council demonstrated strong demand for action to improve road safety. Conservative Coun Thomas has dismissed the Labour-led Vale Council's claim that the route is 'self-regulating due to bends' and is calling for active countermeasures to be taken.

"The Council must introduce road calming measures before there is a serious accident or even a fatality.

"Road safety is also an issue at the Monument junction where pedestrians take their lives in their hands to cross and with the new housing development at The Old Station Yard the number of people crossing here has increased dramatically.

"In addition, speeding traffic is a problem at the Beggars Pound dip where the police used to do speed checks. This no longer happens. It makes you wonder what they are doing with the increased precept which we all have to pay with our council tax.

"All these routes are deemed by the Council to be safe walking routes to school, I am pressing them to act before there is a serious accident here."

No move to monthly bin collections in the Vale

The Vale of Glamorgan Conservatives have announced that they will block any attempt by Labour to introduce monthly bin collections

The local Conservatives have said, "Across Wales, Labour and Plaid Cymru-run Councils are moving to monthly bin collections, which is causing havoc for communities as waste piles up and bins overflow.

"We will not allow monthly bin collections to take place in the Vale of Glamorgan."

"Tough action is required to stop fly-tipping"

Dorothy Turner and Ken Lloyd are standing for election in May

Conservative council candidates Dorothy Turner and Ken Lloyd have called on the Vale Council to do more to combat littering and fly tipping in the area.

They believe incidents should be dealt with far sooner after being reported, and want tougher penalties to deter people.

Mr Lloyd said, "I love living in Penarth, but it's often spoilt by littering and fly- tipping.

"While of course those responsible are the litterers and fly-tippers themselves, inaction by the council doesn't help.

"We therefore want incidents to be cleaned up far quicker, and tougher penalties to act as a deterrent. That way we can all enjoy the area and make it a better place."

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Out & About with The GEM

The 'tale as old as time' gets a freshen-up in Beauty and The Beast

DISNEY'S vault of animated classics has been ripe for live-action remakes, with the likes of *Cinderella* and *The Jungle Book* having had the live-action treatment recently; the next off the production line is *Beauty and The Beast*.

Dan Stevens plays the titular beast, a prince cursed to live his days in his beastly form until he learns love and is loved in return, while Emma Watson is the beauty, Belle, a girl whose dreams have outgrown the small village she lives in.

Pursued by the pompous Gaston (Luke Evans), Belle dreams of more to life, but when she takes the place of her father (Kevin Kline) who has been imprisoned by the beast, the pair start to fall for each other, aided by the castle's talking clocks, teapots and candlesticks...

It's hard enough to try and take a beloved animated Disney film and bring it up to date in live-action; when you add into the fact that the original *Beauty and The Beast* was the first-ever full length animated feature to pick up a Best Picture nomination at the 1992 Academy Awards, then it makes it that much harder.

However, you wouldn't notice if there were any pressures being felt as *Beauty and The Beast* is by far the best of the live-action Disney remakes – a stylish, visually gorgeous and a well-told story that oozes the Disney magic from every frame.

It's not surprising in a way; this is a film that uses the animated version as a pretty strict guide, and while there are embellishments along the way, there are no changes that threaten to upset the apple cart, nor is there any attempt at subverting the iconic moments of its predecessor.

The additions to this telling of the story deepen characters and their motivations, and sit particularly well in the way the story is told, but the scenes that come straight from the animated film lose none of their charm in a live-action setting.

Helmed by Bill Condon, a director whose work has always had an element of grandiose (and sometimes dark) theatricality about it, seemed on paper an

by GARETH JAMIESON
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excellent fit, and it certainly proves that on screen.

While the film has a slight gothic sensibility that befits the tone (in some places maybe even too dark for a younger audience), it also doesn't shy away from bombastic set-pieces and a scope and largesse that sit perfectly.

The musical numbers are essayed with no little style, most notably during 'Be Our Guest' which sees all manner of crockery dance like their lives depend on it, and Condon nails both the drama and the song-and-dance segments, the magic always there.

Dan Stevens is impressive behind some occasionally wonky CGI as the beast, the tortured soul that lies underneath the fur and horns never far from the surface, while Emma Watson may still be a tad too stilted as an actress, but has a good set of pipes on her and essays the role of Belle with some fire and passion that makes her a more rounded heroine.

The real joy lies in the performances beyond the leading pair; Luke Evans has a ball as the pompous (yet equally cruel) Gaston, Josh Gad as his right-hand man LeFou is maniacally enjoyable, while the voices of (in particular) Ian McKellen and Ewan McGregor as the castle's talking objects add a wonderful sense of fun to proceedings.

And for all the slightly darker moments that have that extra punch when relayed in live-action, which is what *Beauty and The Beast* succeeds at delivering; for all the tortured love story machinations, it's a welcoming and familiar slice of Disney fun, something the other films Disney have adapted from animation to live-action haven't quite managed to capture.

You'll be more than happy to be a guest of this magical film.

VERDICT – A wonderfully-realised fairytale, *Beauty and The Beast* is a triumph, a visual feast anchored by some superb set-pieces and a sense of magic. Good performances allied to strong direction make this a faithful, and captivating, live-action updated of the beloved animated original. Highly recommended.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Cinderella* (2015), Beauty and The Beast (1991).

Railway lecture

THE next lecture of the Barry and Penarth Railway Society will be this Thursday March 23.

Local rail enthusiast Jeff Morgan will give a talk entitled: "A Railway Miscellany."

This will include items on 1960s Steam and Diesel- Hydraulics, Queen Street station, Coal from Tower, Onllwyn and G-C-G. and other items.

The talk will take place at Penarth Conservative Club, Stanwell Road, Penarth, CF64 2EZ, starting at 7 30 PM.

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What's on and where?

Bingo in Rhoose

THE committee at Rhoose Community Hall in Stewart Road is holding a fundraising Bingo afternoon this Saturday, March 15.

Doors open at 1.45pm for a 2.30pm start, with a large raffle and light refreshments at the half time break. All proceeds go towards the running of the hall . Please join us for an enjoyable afternoon!

Cowbridge Art Society

ON Thursday, March 23, there will be an illustrated lecture by former V&A curator Roger Pinkham on conceptual art and on Thursday, March 30, the society will be holding its annual Keith James Trophy awards, when members' work will be assessed by art lecture and curator Heather Parnell.

The society welcomes artists and non-artists of any level who would like to see demonstrations of various art techniques or attend illustrated lectures on art topics.

The society meets on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge from 7pm to 9pm; visitors and new members are most welcome. For details of the society's programme and activities see www.cowbridgeartsociety.com and www.facebook.com/cowbridgeart.cas/?ref=bookmarks.

Coffee morning

A COFFEE morning will be held at Tabernacl Hall, Derwen Road, Bridgend on Saturday, March 25 from 10am to 12 noon.

Admission (£2) includes a cup of tea/coffee, with tickets available at the door.

Proceeds to the Urdd National Eisteddfod, Pen-y-Bont, Taf and Elai, to be held in Pencoed at the end of May.

Choral concert

ON Saturday, March 25 the spring concert given by Cowbridge Choral Society, together with Pontypridd Choral Society and the Cardiff Symphony Orchestra takes place in Bethel Baptist Church, Pontyclun when they will be performing Dvorak's 'Stabat Mater'.

The concert at 7.30pm will be conducted by Jeff Ryan, with soloists Iona Jones (soprano), Hannah Ovett (contralto), Simon Curtis (tenor), and Stephen Hamnett (bass). Tickets from Davies Newsagent, 38 The High Street, choir members, or on the door.

New members are always welcome to join Cowbridge Choral Society, and experience is not essential. Rehearsals take place at the United Free Church, Westgate St (opposite the police station) at 7.30pm on Thursdays.

Dragon Saab drive across the Barrage

ON Sunday, April 9 the south Wales branch of the Saab Owners Club, Dragon Saab are once again running their 'Spring Roll' event which includes a drive across the Cardiff Bay Barrage, which is normally banned to cars.

The day, which has proved extremely popular in the Saab Community is running for the fourth year. In 2016 we had an impressive 36 cars attending.

The day starts with the convoy of Saabs driving to the Penarth side of the barrage where we have special permission from the harbour authority to drive across it. We stop in the middle for a stunning photo opportunity then park on the Cardiff side of the barrage.

Time is then spent enjoying a pleasurable walk around the bay and a stop for coffee and cake if people want. The day continues by going back across the barrage and then for a picturesque drive around the Vale of Glamorgan and Ogmore.

This year, we have included a trip to visit the Barry Bus Depot, which houses about 40 vintage buses maintained by the Cardiff Transport Preservation Group. We are ending the day with a late lunch around 3.30pm at the Three Horseshoes pub in Moulton.

Any Saabs that want to join us can email Jane and Jonathan Jenkins on jane.jenkins20@btinternet.com

JANE JENKINS

Art exhibition marks the International Women's Day

Eileen and Jenny Allan at the Women's Arts Association exhibition.

AN exhibition celebrating International Women's Day by the Women's Art Association opened at the Vale Council's Art Central gallery recently and will run until March 25.

It includes more than 70 pieces of art work made up of paintings, textiles, photography, sculptural work and an art installation created by women from across Wales.

The open exhibition in Barry allows women at all levels of their creative careers to submit work for exhibition, enabling those less experienced to show work alongside more established artists.

This year the gallery is also celebrating work by Eileen Allan, one of the early members of the women's arts organisation. She has worked in the arts throughout her life, as a painter and teacher of drama.

Ms Allan has been an advocate for upcoming artists and has supported Art Central Gallery in this, its 10th anniversary year.

Her work can also be seen at the Travellers Gallery and Cafe at Barry train station.

Bronwen Brooks, cabinet member for housing and social care and health, said: "We are delighted to host the Women's Arts Association's exhibition at Art Central in celebration of International Women's Day. It is always an eclectic mix of work, illustrating the broad range of skills those who contribute possess."

The exhibition is easily accessed via the entrance to Barry County Library. For more information visit www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/enjoying/Art-Central-Gallery

Ty Hafan lottery draw

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D975:

- The rollover of £1,500 was won by 111607.
- **£2,000:** 138361.
- **£10:** 302749, 767187, 247589, 707680, 786665, 749857, 518178, 298767, 257885, 439812, 101486, 331647, 692183, 355272, 433616, 719799, 353493, 529859, 1137471.
- **£5:** 567728, 475729, 708279, 940000, 542074, 861042, 159876, 899818, 160295, 501272, 884950, 709794, 471083, 594692, 772064, 311435, 113044,, 154792, 758082, 261015, 560209, 882313, 147270, 366518, 562360, 735148, 802125, 325167, 845416, 176600, 533563, 363754, 818386, 630422, 582471, 158233, 546450, 470382, 923065, 207184, 557457, 707519, 721386, 872630, 105275, 709861, 338615, 375297, 648201, 880438, 589538, 237374, 257155, 132155, 126822, 823309, 699017, 669270, 1760300, 1730423.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information telephone 029 2053 2300.

'THE MEN WHO BUILT BARRY'

Early retail entrepreneurs between 1887 and 1920: Part 1

Local historian LAURIE OWEN continues his series: THIS WEEK – the growth of Barry's entrepreneurial spirit.

WORK on building Barry Docks began in 1884, with the arrival of thousands of navvies, and this quiet village soon became a bustling town – with tradesmen of all types and their families.

Shopkeepers supplied their basic needs, such as groceries, fruit and vegetables, bread and meat with some selling from their front rooms.

Others with entrepreneurial spirit and ambition, could see greater opportunities.

With regular earnings came greater spending power, and more attention could now be given to personal appearance – with emphasis on fashion for both ladies and gents and home improvement now possible.

This story will focus on just three men of vision, and while they all prospered, two of them continued to feature in the lives of future residents for many years, with one only ceasing to trade in 2005.

David Lloyd 1859-1946 was born in Llandyssiliogogo, a small village on Cardigan Bay, the second son of Thomas and Sarah. His father was farming 360 acres in 1861 and with elder son Evan (1856-1917) the family were sharing their home with five young people, recorded as servants.

John was born a year later and for whatever reason, the three sons chose not to follow the family tradition in agriculture.

David was educated at Newcastle Emlyn Grammar School and received his business training via Aberaeron, Swansea, Cardiff and London, before arriving in Barry around 1887.

In 1881, elder brothers Evan and David already had a sizable drapery shop at 24-26 Clifton Street in Roath, with nine shop assistants and a general servant living with them. Two years later, in the early hours of the morning, a serious fire broke out at their premises, destroying No 24, together with all the stock, worth between £1,500 and £1,800.

Thankfully, the living quarters were next door, so there were no injuries and even though the property was rented and the stock insured, just two months later Lloyd Brothers went into liquidation.

With Barry Docks due to open, the prospect of a fresh start brought them to town and an early advert in the Barry Dock News of 1889 illustrated their ambition.

With their earlier experience, they were soon trading to a high standard, offering a vast range of suits and hosiery, with a dedicated 'mechanics' department' specialising in clothing for all working men: fitters, boilermakers, carpenters, joiners, masons, plasterers, coal trimmers, sailors and navvies.

Significantly, they only catered for men, youths and boys, and their 'made to measure' service offered tweed suits for gentlemen, priced between 30 and 60 shillings.

Having been joined by younger sibling John, by 1891 there were three unmarried Lloyd brothers, living and trading at 89/93 Main Street, just yards from the Royal Hotel. Evan was now working as a 'Commercial Traveller in Clothing', with David and John both recorded as 'Outfitters'.

David was best man when Evan married Ada Amelia Davis at St Cadoc's Church in 1894.

The following year, he was elected to the School Board when he was described as 'one of the oldest, largest and most successful tradesmen in Barry', having already opened the second store at 72 Holton Road.

Competition was intense, not only from local tailors, such as the Garnett Bros in Barry Road and Davies & Sherwood in Holton Road, but also from many in Cardiff who advertised in the local paper, names such as J Hepworth, who rather modestly styled themselves the 'World's Clothiers'.

The establishment of the Welsh Church in Barry had begun in 1889 in a Mission Room at Iddlesleigh Street (Main Street) and David, being bilingual, had been one of the founders. Then seven years later, when the new corrugated iron Eglwys Sant Ioan was erected on a permanent site on the corner of Court Road, both David and Evan were lay churchwardens.

Brother John played an active role in the business up until 1899, but just two years later, he returned home with wife Mary and baby Mary Anne, to be a farmer next to his parents.

Evan and Ada were now living at 2 Sea View Terrace with Sarah, David, Thomas Balfour and baby Wyndham Sherston.

In 1897, as chairman, Evan ran an outing by train to the Wye Valley and Tintern for 'Cadoxton Conservative Club and Institute' and he was also a member of the Oddfellows Association. In 1904 he was elected a Poor Law Guardian and was the chairman and treasurer of the Church League, to spread the word and 'deepen the spirit of brotherhood'.

By 1908, Evan had a shop at 55 Main Street called Daisy Dairy and one day, a surprise visitor called.

PC Dan Driscoll was escorting a Russian seaman charged with murder and another for unlawful wounding, by horse and cart to catch the train to Cardiff from Cadoxton Station.

Travelling from the police station in Holton Road along Court Road and into Main Street, for some reason as they approached Evan's shop, the horse took fright and veered to the right up over the kerb, throwing the driver off his box.

In a second, the alert constable sprang out of the cart dragging the two prisoners with him, as the frantic horse struggled through the front door into the shop and collapsed in front of Evan and a few startled customers. Fortunately, there were no injuries, and they managed to help the poor creature to its feet and out into the road, where amused locals helped to restore the cart to its proper state and the short journey to the station continued.

In the 1911 census, the family were living at 49 Main Street with Evan still a commercial traveller and wife Ada a confectioner with 15-year-old Sarah assisting, most likely in the Daisy Dairy.

Tragedy struck the family when Evan died in 1917, after being in poor health for some time, quickly followed by news that eldest son David was 'Missing In Action' in France.

Meanwhile, David had married Mary Elizabeth Randell in 1897, and by 1901, they were still at 89 Main Street with sons Horace and Thomas: Irving Davies an outfitter's assistant and Sophia Thomas a domestic servant.

Now an established and successful businessman, he would play a major role in civic duties, when in 1905 he was elected a councillor for the Cadoxton ward with the message 'For Justice, Efficiency and Economy'.

He was a lifelong abstainer and temperance advocate and as a 'people's warden', was a good friend of the working classes. Over the years, his contribution to the people of Barry was considerable.

He was a JP, and at various times was chairman of the Urban District Council, the Public Works Committee, the Lifeboat Saturday Committee, and president of the Cadoxton Bowling Club.

In 1910, as chairman of the Education Committee, an interesting discussion took place as to whether schools should teach children to speak Welsh.

At first this may seem a strange topic in a Welsh town, but it should be remembered that many thousands of new residents came from England and beyond.

David and others from west and north Wales were Welsh speakers, so it was agreed to make it a voluntary system, depending on the teachers and it was duly accepted with 60 per cent support.

By 1911, the family now included six-year-old daughter Dilys Eileen and following the death of David's father Thomas in 1909, his widowed mother Sarah was living with them, together with Mary Kinsey a domestic servant.

A 1918 advert showed that at some point, the business name had been amended to 'D Lloyd & Co' while asserting that 'Quality and Price Defy Competition'.

An interesting story in the press when David was on the council in 1918, told how the Food Control Committee recommended that bakers should use potatoes with flour to make bread, thereby controlling the amount of flour being used.

During this time, it was recorded that his wife Mary Elizabeth was also active in the community, representing the Cadoxton ward of the Cardiff Union Board of Guardians and as a committee member under the Mental Deficiency Act.

Although this short story ends here, David and wife Mary would continue to live at 89 Main Street until Mary died in 1939, followed by David, seven years later.

Long-time residents will know that over time the store in Holton Road would sell a wide range of products for men and women, well into the future.

'Woolly Hat Day' for St Mungo's

AS one of the UK's largest homelessness charities, we want to thank your readers for helping to raise £18,500 so far for people who are homeless, by putting on their favourite hat, making a donation, and helping to change someone's life.

St Mungo's Woolly Hat Day took place on January 27 when thousands of people donned beanies, baseball caps and berets and more to help us raise vital funds for our work.

Our St Mungo's vision is that everyone has a place to call home and can fulfil their hopes and ambitions. We provide a bed and support to more than 2,500 people a night who are either homeless or at risk, and work to prevent homelessness.

We support men and women through more than 250 projects including emergency, hostel and supportive housing projects, advice services, specialist physical health, mental health and skills and work services.

We believe in our clients' potential. We are committed to every individual's sustainable recovery.

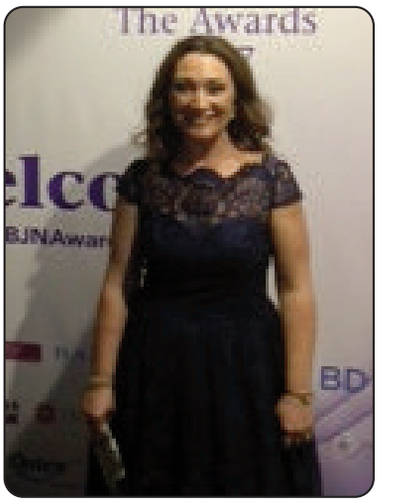
The money raised helps make a real difference to our services such as helping people off the streets. Across the country, for example, people used our unique hat cupcake recipe to bake cakes for us in schools, offices and in their homes at hat parties.

As a homeless charity, our clients are at the heart of what we do. By putting on a hat for Woolly Hat Day you helped homeless people get ahead.

Pru Sly,
Community and events manager, St Mungo's.

NURSE TARA SAYS 'HELLO' TO AWARD

TARA REES, a specialist hepatology nurse with Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (UHB), has won a British Journal of Nursing (BJN) Hepatology Nurse of the Year award for making a 'significant impact' on patient care.



Tara Rees at the award ceremony.

The BJN awards recognise individuals who do their jobs really well.

Hepatology and liver nurses play a key role in caring for very unwell patients with a range of life-altering conditions and diseases.

Tara said: "I've been a hepatology specialist nurse at Cardiff and Vale UHB for nearly 14 years.

"During this time, I have developed the hepatology nurse-led service.

"As well as managing patients with liver disease locally within the health board, I am part of the liver disease delivery plan panel and also part of the sub group for developing care pathways for patients with primary liver cancer. I was instrumental in setting up treatment clinics for viral hepatitis in the community.

"I work with an excellent team who have encouraged and supported me.

"To be recognised for the work I have undertaken made me feel extremely proud and honoured.

"Not only to have liver nursing recognised as its own entity, but also to represent Wales, was an absolute privilege."

Twenty Vale Ramblers visited Abergavenny

TWENTY Vale of Glamorgan Ramblers were curious enough to participate in this walk, making their way from Cowbridge to Abergavenny to start the walk and learn more about the history behind the title of the walk.

All was revealed at Abergavenny Castle. This had been the site of the massacre of around 70 men in 1177. They had been invited with their leader, a local Welsh Prince to a banquet by William de Braose, fifth Lord of Abergavenny.

Unknown to them, de Braose had a score to settle with the Welsh Prince and under the guise of healing old wounds, they were lulled into a false sense of security and slaughtered at the banqueting table.

Leaving the castle and its memories behind, the ramblers made their way to a more tranquil setting, the Monmouth/Brecon canal. Walking along this peaceful stretch, they enjoyed a coffee stop on the way, before dropping down to the village of Llanellen, a pretty village on the banks of the Usk River and in the shadow of the Blorenge for lunch.

Leaving the village behind, crossing the river, the walkers continued over farmland, which after the recent wet weather, was very muddy indeed. Seeing and hearing the lambs bleating reminded us that spring is on its way.

This was very much the terrain as we headed back to Abergavenny to enjoy a well earned drink in the pub prior to heading home. Thanks to Mike Carey, Adrian Rowe and Bill Fitzpatrick for leading this walk.

Further information is available at www.valeofglamorganramblers.co.uk.

GWENDA FITZPATRICK

Scarf and handbag 'swap'

ON March 25 between 10.30am and 12pm in Bethel Baptist church hall in Llantwit Major, the foodbank is holding a coffee morning and scarf, handbag and tie swap.

A spokesperson said: "Bring any of these items that you no longer want and swap them for another one. At the same time coffee and cakes will be available for a suggested donation of £3.

The charity is dependent on donations of food and sometimes money, given by people to buy everyday items of food that the foodbank may be running low on.

"These items are needed for families who are supported by the Foodbank.

"Come along, support this good cause and refresh your wardrobe."

'Silent thief of sight' warning

LOCAL RESIDENTS are being warned about the dangers of glaucoma and the importance of having regular eye tests, during World Glaucoma Week (March 12-18).

Described by some as the 'silent thief of sight' due to its gradual onset, it affects about one in 50 people aged over 40 in the UK, and is the leading cause of irreversible blindness worldwide.

Specsavers has teamed up with the World Glaucoma Association and International Glaucoma Association to launch a £1 million awareness campaign aimed at increasing understanding of the condition and the importance of regular eye tests.

Nick King, director at Specsavers in Maesteg, said: "Glaucoma symptoms, unlike those of other eye conditions, often don't manifest until the damage is irreversible. For that reason, it is vital people don't just have eye examinations when they notice an issue, but regularly, to ensure that their eye health is monitored."

For further information or to book an eye test at your nearest Specsavers store, call 0800 068 0241 or log onto www.specsavers.co.uk.

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE IN YOUR AREA?

Friends of Barry Beaches

THE next litter pick by Friends of Barry Beaches will be on Sunday, March 26 at Jackson's Bay. Volunteers should meet at the bottom of the path, near the toilet block at 3pm.

Litter pickers and bags are provided, but would volunteers please wear suitable clothing and footwear. Children are always welcome, but we ask that they are accompanied by an adult.

We look forward to welcoming volunteers, old and new to help keep Barry's beaches clean.

Mothering Sunday service

ON March 26, All Saints' Church in Victoria Square, Penarth is holding a special family service for Mothering Sunday at 10am.

Come along to give thanks for mothers and all who care for us throughout our lives.

The worship will include items suitable for all ages, and flowers will be presented to all the ladies. Creche facilities are available and refreshments served after the service. All welcome.

Barry Library Monday Reading Group

COME and join our friendly group on Monday, March 27 from 6pm to 7pm at Barry Library, King Square, Barry. Contact Melanie on 01446 422419.

Easter fun day

AN Easter fun day event takes place on Saturday, March 25 from 11am to 3pm at Trinity Methodist Church, Woodland Place, Penarth.

There will be various stalls including an Easter egg hunt, lucky dip, arts and crafts – and lots more. For further details or to book a stall, contact Laura on 07702873067.

Tax advice surgery

ARE you worried about tax issues? Do you know if you are paying the correct amount? Are you nervous about approaching the Inland Revenue?

Age Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding a free tax advice surgery on Monday, March 27 from 9.30am to 11.30am. No appointment is necessary, just come along to Age Connects Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry. Home visits can be arranged if needed; contact 01446 732385 for further information.

Why not test your flying skills?

BARRY Aero Modellers are holding an open night between 7pm and 9pm on Tuesday, March 28 at Barry Island Community Hall.

Come and test out your flying skills for free using our micro aeroplanes and perhaps become a member of the group.

If you're interested in model flying of all types of flight, you are welcome to come along and see what we have to offer. For further details, contact Rob on 07542 781837.

Prostate Awareness

IF you have recently been diagnosed with prostate trouble, or are caring for someone who has, help and support is available.

In Prostate Awareness Week, Age Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding a drop-in health information session.

Come chat to a health care professional from Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust about local support on Tuesday, March 28, at The Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry from 10am to 12pm; no appointment is needed. Call 01446 732385 for further information.

Llantwit Major Horticultural Society

THE next meeting will be Wednesday, March 29 at 7.30pm at Llantonian Hall, Llantwit Major when our speaker will be Mr Glyn Canter talking about the plight of the honey bee.

New members and visitors always welcome.

Past captain wins golf club's winter prize draw

Lorraine Pointon-Bell receives the prize from general manager Derek Smith.

THROUGH the winter months, Cottrell Park Golf Resort has been running a weekly members' prize draw with a cash prize that increased each time by £50.

The prize pot started at £500, and was drawn on a Thursday. In addition, the club also hosted a quiz and offered food specials.

The quiz was compiled and hosted by members of the club and members and visitors were encouraged to take part.

The prize draw was not won and increased to £1,200 by the last draw earlier this month, when Lorraine Pointon-Bell's name was drawn.

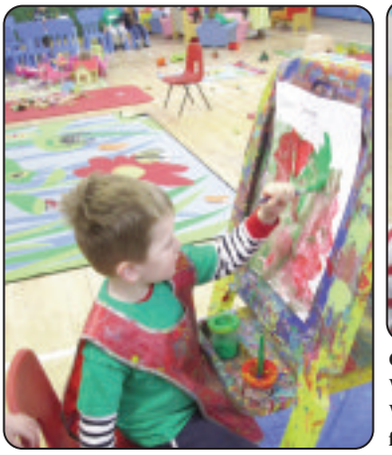
All members were added to the draw since its launch in October whether they attended or not but those that did attend had their names added each week, therefore increasing their chances of winning.

The concept was to encourage members to support the club through the dreary winter months when generally the clubhouse is quiet.

Lorraine, who is also a past captain of the ladies section was delighted with her win and has used some of her winnings to pay her annual golf subscriptions.

The club intends to run the incentive again this winter.

Playgroup celebrate St David!



CYLCH BETHESDA playgroup celebrated St David's Day and World Book Day. The children painted dragons, learnt the Welsh national anthem, dressed up and discussed their favourite book characters.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Gardening Club

THE next meeting of the Cowbridge Gardening Club will be on March 30 at 7.30pm in the Lesser Hall, when Dr Ben Mathew will speak on 'A Chiropractor's Guide to Safe Gardening'. New members welcome.

Spring fair

THE Windsor Bowling Club is holding its spring fair on Saturday, April 1 at the clubhouse in Robinswood Crescent, Penarth.

It starts at 10 am, entry £1.50 to include a drink and a hot cross bun.

There will be lots of stalls: cakes, bottles, plants, books, jewellery and toiletries, bags and scarves, household items as well as a raffle, games and also a lucky dip.

Neighbourhood Watch

A RESIDENTS' meeting will take place to mark one year of Highlight Park Community Neighbourhood Watch scheme, working on behalf of residents to raise awareness of safety issues.

The meeting focuses on home security and will cover advice from the following organisations: South Wales Police, Safer Vale, South Wales Fire Service and VOG Securities.

The meeting will be held at 6.30pm on April 4 with refreshments served at 6pm in Highlight Park Community Hall.

Concert at the Tabernacl

TABERNACL Music Society are holding their spring concert, 'A Celebration of Welsh Music' on Sunday, April 9 at 7pm at Tabernacle Chapel, Derwen Road, Bridgend.

Also taking part are young soloists on piano, harp, and saxophone. The concert will be conducted by Matthew Nash and accompanied by Glen Crooks.

Tickets £8; for further details go to *cor-tabernacl-choir.co.uk*.

SPORTS DAY FOR THE AIR CADETS

RECENTLY, 24 air cadets from 372 (Barry) Squadron travelled to MoD St Athan for a range of sporting fun activities.

The aim was to inspire the air cadets to enjoy and participate more frequently in sports, while improving their fitness and stamina.

This was also a great social opportunity meet cadets from other squadrons and make new friends.

During the day, the cadets tried their hand at archery, bench ball, fun circuits, soft ball, trim trail, Unihoc, spin bikes, tug of war, crab football, ultimate Frisbee and visually impaired football, using all the gym facilities.

Each session allowed the cadets to try the many sports on offer, especially non-traditionalsports which the cadets may never have tried before.

Helen Gibson was on hand to raise the awareness and work of RAFA Youth and Sergeant Carl Graham from RAF careers attended to provide a range of sporting activities.

Flight Lieutenant Jason Horton, Sports Officer for No.1 Welsh Wing said: "The cadets experienced a range of sports with the focus on fun to inspire the cadets to participate more often in sports.

"Several instructors from No.1 Welsh Wing gave their time, energy and enthusiasm to ensure the sports day was a great success."

If you have a spirit for adventure, 372 (Barry) Squadron has vacancies for boys and girls between 13-18 years old. The Squadron parade on Mondays and Wednesdays, 7pm to 9.30pm, behind Adams Funeral Parlour or you can the Squadron on 07486 501864; email oc.372@aircadets.org or visit www.372squadron.org.uk for more information.

Quality Skills Alliance honours top apprentices at awards ceremony

The winners at the QSA Awards.

SIXTEEN top apprentices have had their hard work and dedication celebrated at a special awards ceremony.

Employers and practitioners who have gone that extra mile in their commitment to work based learning were also recognised at the ceremony, held in the spectacular surroundings of Cardiff and Vale College's city centre campus and hosted by Lucy Owen.

The apprentices' commitment was celebrated at the fourth annual awards ceremony held by the Quality Skills Alliance – a consortium of work-based learning providers made up of 22 partners and subcontractors.

The awards celebrate excellence and achievement, and the winners were chosen by a panel comprising the QSA's chair – CAVC chief executive Kay Martin – and board.

The overall award for Apprentice of the Year went to Tom Grainger, who is employed by Mercedes Benz, Cardiff and Newport, and through rapid development completed his apprenticeship in June last year.

This year saw the first junior apprenticeship award. recognising the achievements of Cardiff and Vale College's Junior Apprenticeship programme.

The first ever winner of the award is 16-year-old Caine Meredith, who is on CAVC's auto pathway.

Chloe Davies, a Cardiff and Vale College Apprenticeships (CAVCA) learner, won the hair and beauty award.

She started as a full time learner but moved over to an apprenticeship and despite having to change salons in the middle of her framework, she was able to progress from Level 2 to Level 3 Hairdressing, complete her course and is now in full time employment at The Business in Dinas Powys, where she also manages the salon's Facebook and Instagram accounts.

Alex James is employed as an apprentice by The Classroom, Cardiff and Vale College's restaurant. A hard worker who has become an integral part of The Classroom's AA college rosette-winning team, Alex has represented the college in the Skills Wales competition.

CAVC runs a successful apprenticeship scheme with Deloitte at its Cardiff Delivery Centre. Business administration award winner Brandon Lee Evans completed his apprenticeship before his expected end date, setting himself ambitious targets. Now employed full time at Deloitte, he is keen to enter its Bright Spark programme in 2017.

The health and social care award was won by CAVCA apprentice Laura Gurd. Laura has been with Fun Start Childcare since it opened in Cardiff and greets every new challenge with enthusiasm, excitement and passion.

The role model award was won by former creative and digital media apprentice Dewi Foulkes for his work at special effects firm Real SFX.

The special recognition award went to vehicle accident repair apprentice Chris Jones. A talented spray artist, Chris has represented CAVC at World Skills and came second – his decorated car bonnets are also used to promote the College's auto courses at events.

Michelle Owen of CAVC and Danielle Williams of NDGTA both won practitioner's awards for their exemplary support to apprentices and colleagues, adding to value to their organisations.

Employers were also celebrated for their commitment to apprentices. Arnold Building and Carpentry won the small employer award while the Salvation Army Lighthouse/Tŷ Gobaith won the medium employer award. BBC Cymru Wales and Enrsys both won the award for large employers.

A special new employer award went to Signature Living, for its commitment to apprentices at its redevelopment of the Coal Exchange.

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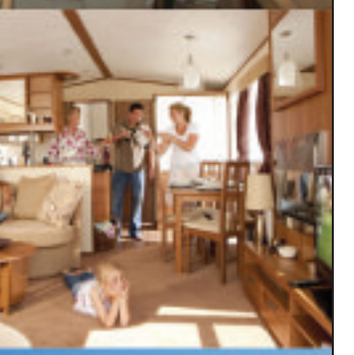

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'FILM & COMIC CON' DRAWS FANS TO CARDIFF'S MOTORPOINT ARENA

THE 'FILM & COMIC CON' took place at Cardiff's Motorpoint Arena, Cardiff, on March 4, and photographer Andy Wicks was on hand to capture a wide of array of colourful characters.

Some were star guests from film and TV, others were fans dressed up as their favourite characters.

Genres included sci-fi, horror, comics and the occult – it was truly a fun and entertaining festival

IMAGES by ANDY WICKS

Penarth Hockey Club round-up

PENARTH Hockey Club's bid for a hat-trick of GoCrea8 League success stories will culminate this weekend as the second XI's victory over 2015-16 nemesis Swansea University sets up a shoot-out against De Cymru One promotion rivals Bridgend.

SWANSEA UNIVERSITY B 2, PENARTH A 7

Penarth travelled to Swansea knowing a win against the university could see them promoted if third-placed Bridgend failed to get three points of their own but, having drawn 4-4 with the students in the home fixture, the Bears also knew it would be a difficult encounter against a free-scoring and recently improved student side.

Penarth started well and had the university pinned in their own half during the opening exchanges, but failing to convert several good chances ensured that the game remained scoreless until Swansea's resolve was broken midway through the half.

David Tipping, making a cameo appearance during a holiday back in Penarth, provided the spark, smashing a reverse stick shot goalwards which was deflected past the hapless student keeper by Phil Lane.

The lead was short-lived however, and Swansea were back on level terms almost immediately when they dispossessed the Bears' defence and broke through on goal, with a two-on-one advantage giving Penarth keeper Simon Comfort little chance of preventing the equaliser.

Despite being pegged back, the visitors remained dominant and continued to press, while Swansea only posed a real threat on the counter-attack, where some resolute last man defending from Joe Wells and Jamie Davison - and a few excellent saves from Comfort kept the students from adding to their tally.

The threat on the counter notwithstanding, Penarth continued to create chances and eventually struck the vital blow as a well-worked penalty corner routine saw Lane find Dave Stevens, who scored for his third game in a row.

Going into half-time at 2-1, Penarth's lead remained tenuous – but not for long. With the next goal likely to be crucial to the outcome, the Vale side ensured that it was one that stretched their advantage, with Chris McCarthy hounding the Swansea defence into an early high turnover, with Lane again capitalising to make it 3-1.

The opportunist completed his hat-trick shortly after, this time with centre back Craig Llewellyn tackling aggressively to win possession high up the pitch before Lane drove into the 'D' and fired home.

Although the hosts grabbed a superb consolation goal to make it 4-2, such was the dominance of Penarth's performance that it never really looked like a comeback was on the cards. Lane grabbed his fourth to restore the Bears' three-goal lead, and added a fifth for good measure, this one the pick of the bunch, beating several Swansea defenders before firing a reverse stick shot into the top corner.

The scoring was rounded off by Sam Chick, a defence-splitting pass from Andy Strong finding the captain in the opposition 25 before his square ball to Tipping was diverted into his own net by the covering Swansea defender.

Unfortunately for Penarth, their 7-2 victory was all but matched by their Bridgend rivals, and sees them take just a slender one-point advantage into the last game of the season.

With the fixture essentially becoming a promotion play-off final, if the Bears can avoid defeat they will retain second spot in De Cymru 1 and guarantee elevation to De Cymru & the Marches 2 for 2017-18.

PENARTH 6, ROBINSONS A 3

A week on from securing their second successive promotion as champions, the first XI were as hungry as ever as they faced promotion-chasing Robinsons in their last home game of the 2016-17 league campaign.

With the wind in their back, the Bristol-based side came out hot and put Penarth on the back foot early on. They were quickly rewarded for their endeavour too as, flooding men forward, the ball eventually found its way to an unmarked attacker at the back post, who gave the visitors the lead within five minutes of the start.

This, however, only served to awaken the sleeping Bears, who wasted no time in restoring parity.

Winning a penalty corner, Laith El-Khatib's drag flick was illegally stopped on the line, and the resulting penalty flick was comfortably dispatched by player/coach Ben Croxall.

Penarth have hit a rich vein of form from penalty corners of late, and were at their clinical best once again, adding two quick set-piece goals to open an advantage before the interval.

There was no stopping El-Khatib's second drag flick of the game and, not to be outdone, Croxall stepped up to convert from the top of the 'D' to make it three-from-three heading into half-time.

Despite holding a commanding margin, Penarth knew that, if Robinsons could snatch the next goal, it would be game on once more, but the Bears ensured that there would be no ramping up of the pressure as they scored almost immediately from the restart.

Once again, the strike came from a penalty corner, this time with injector Sam Williamson reacting quickest to a save to grab his first goal of the season. Robinsons lined one up from the top of the 'D' to peg a goal back.

The visitors immediately pulled their keeper off and went to a kicking back for one last throw of the dice, but it proved to be a gamble too far as Croxall immediately threw an aerial over the back line for his front front three to chase, leaving Chris Baker with an empty net to tap into.

Robinsons continued with the kicking back tactic, hoping that the spare outfield player would give them an advantage, and duly overloaded the Penarth defence to grab a third goal.

The Bears, however, showed that they remained the superior side, taking the ball straight up the other end to win a final penalty corner. With no recognised keeper in the defensive cordon, the visitors were sitting ducks and El-Khatib made no mistake to score his second and give Penarth a 6-3 victory.

PENARTH B 4, PENARTH C 1

The final Penarth derby of the 2016-17 campaign proved to be the best of the lot as, with promotion for the B team already confirmed, both sides relaxed and played out the most entertaining game seen at this level all season.

A strong opening from the senior side saw them exerting constant pressure, but the 'C-siders' defence, marshalled expertly by James Davies, stood firm and, turning the tables with almost their first serious attack of the game, were rewarded with a surprise lead as a lightning fast break involving Dave Kidby and Adam Morse swept the ball up the field before Marc Sawyer finished coolly.

However, Simon Wilkinson sent the teams into the break on level terms.

Watkins reorganised his troops at this point, making what turned out to be a decisive change by moving Richard Skone into a playmaking role from which he was able to dictate much of the second half.

With the clock starting to run down, however, the dam broke at last and the senior side were able to pull away, starting with Dave Thomas scoring from close range following a fine passing move and a quick one-two with Skone at the top of the 'D'.

The breakthrough was followed by two more rapid-fire goals as Wilkinson got his second with a neat piece of opportunism, and Skone rounded off a man-of-the-match performance with a quality finish to another slick move.

The final Saturday of GoCrea8 League action sees all four Penarth sides in action, with the second XI's encounter with Bridgend at Stanwell (noon start) taking top billing.

Both first and third XIs are away this weekend, at Yate and Swansea City respectively, while the fourths bring the curtain down on their first season in 20 years by providing the opening act at Stanwell (10.15am start).

Anyone interested in joining the club at senior or youth level can contact club secretary Dave Stevens (d_stevens81@hotmail.co.uk) for further information.

CL

Indira Varma from Torchwood and Game of Thrones.

ABOVE: Don't hire these two to cut back that overgrown tree!

Bail Ling from Star Wars.

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Poppy (aged 12) leads runners home in Fun Run at the Bay

Poppy Burton-Dickie.

THE George Thomas hospice care Bay5K Fun Run sponsored by Western Power Distribution was run recently in glorious sunshine.

The annual 5K fun run takes place in beautiful Cardiff Bay and, this year, was started by Barry's world featherweight champion, Lee Selby.

The first runner home was 12-year-old Poppy Burton-Dickie in an amazing 19 minutes. Poppy also raised an amazing amount of sponsorship too, raising over £1,300.

Poppy said: "I like running and I was determined to raise lots of money for George Thomas Hospice Care, which gives such wonderful care to people such as my Grandpa."

Lee Selby said: "I was delighted to start today's fun run. I would have liked to run but I've been told to rest after winning my contest last weekend. Having said that, I think I'd have struggled to keep up with Poppy!"

Barry students tread the boards and try their hand at the ukelele!

STUDENTS at Barry Comprehensive School have been given the opportunity to participate in a series of music and drama workshops.

The UCAN project allowed pupils a chance to develop their literacy, communication, planning and group presentation skills.

The sessions were delivered by experienced and qualified instructors, some of whom are professional actors that have appeared in well-known programmes, including Hollyoaks and Coronation Street!

Students were able to demonstrate their musical abilities by learning to play some songs on the ukulele. They also performed drama pieces, including 'The Incomplete Works of William Shakespeare', which was set in Barry, and a historical account of Welsh folklore.

At the end of the project, a performance was given to parents and supporters of the school. All of the pupils had a very worthwhile, enjoyable and interesting experience.

AC

Rich John Tomeldan produced radio announcements for each part of the performance

Connor O'Kelly sang a solo.

Brandon Barrett, Jamie King and Lewis Tipples using the 'Giant' puppet.

Local AM reinforces the importance of STEM roles

VALE AM Jane Hutt brought primary and secondary schools together with some key companies from across the Vale to discuss how they can work together to reinforce the importance of STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) roles in education and employment in Wales.

Around 60 representatives from across the Vale attended the Engineering Change Breakfast, which was held at Cardiff and Vale College's purpose-built aerospace campus International Centre for Aerospace Training (ICAT) at Cardiff Airport.

Ms Hutt said: "Practically all of our schools were represented, along with many of our key companies. It was noticeable that all of the companies said yes to the invitation almost immediately. They recognise how important it is that we encourage and nurture our young people particularly from our local schools to consider STEM subjects.

"I was pleased to welcome Aston Martin to the breakfast. The last time Aston Martin was at ICAT was for its recruitment drive, which saw thousands of people queue to register their interest in working for it."

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The Vale of Glamorgan will be covered by Lisa Snooks, who has lived in Barry all her life. With over 12 years experience, Lisa has extensive knowledge within this particular property market, having worked for independent & corporate agents locally. Lisa's love for the property Industry shows in her great work ethic & great attention to detail, and she is not afraid of "going the extra mile for her customers".

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We need fit reliable people to help distribute the Glamorgan GEM newspaper to local homes, once a week.
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The Glamorgan GEM — Newmarket Holidays

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Visit some of the most poignant and important sites.
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Family Notices

SHAW
John Stevenson

On March 16 at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, Jack of Llantwit Major, beloved husband of Claire.

Will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Monday, April 3, service and cremation 2.15pm at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Alzheimers Society c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 3DZ.

WHITELEGG
William

Peacefully on March 3, 2017, Bill, aged 84 years. Beloved husband of the late Eileen, much loved father of Paul and Helen, cherished Gramps and Bobo to all his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Bill will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at W.A. Brown & Son, Llantwit Major, until the funeral service at St Illtyds Church on Friday, March 24 at 1.30pm, followed by interment at Boverton Cemetery. Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if so desired, for the RNLI c/o the funeral director.

To reflect Bill's personality, the family request a splash of colour to be worn.

ENGLAND
Terence James Anthony (Terry)

A very sudden and unexpected passing but peacefully in the Princess of Wales, Bridgend on 25th February, Terry, aged 80 years of Llantwit Major, originally from Dinas Powys. A dearly beloved and devoted dad to Bethan and Gramps (Bampy) to his seven grandchildren Connor, Hollie, Chloë, Calum, Kiran, Eilora, Zofeyah.

He will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting peacefully at W.A. Brown & Sons. Funeral service to take place on Friday, 24th March at Our Lady & St Illtyd Roman Catholic Church, Llantwit Major at 10am, followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 11.30am. Flowers may be sent to the funeral home or donations to Marie Curie Hospice, Holme Tower and/or Cancer Research UK in memory of Terry England.

BOND
Pamela

Suddenly on 10 March, aged 75 years. Mum to Tommy, Susan and Jean and nanna to Caren, Ashley and Jonathan.

Pam will be missed greatly by all who knew her.

Resting at Penybont Funeral Services, Bridgend until her service at Coychurch Crematorium on Monday, 27 March at 11.30am. Donations, in lieu of flowers, to British Heart Foundation.

DALBY
Brian

Unexpectedly Brian passed away at the UHW Cardiff on 13th March 2017, aged, 47. Loving father to three daughters and two grandchildren.

Will be greatly missed by all the family and friends

Resting at James Summers & Son, Chapel of Rest, Lavernock Road, Penarth, until his funeral on Tuesday, 28th March at 1pm, at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry. Family flowers only please, but donations in lieu, if desired, to Recovery Cymru, 232 Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4HS care of the centre, the funeral director, or online at https://localgiving.org/recovery-cymru.

HUGHES
Edward (Ted)

It is with great sadness we announce the death of Ted, aged 85, who passed away peacefully at home on March 8th. Beloved and cherished husband of Margaret, much loved dad to Derek, Anne, Allison and Lewis. Adored grandad of Bethan, Lewis, Rhian, Dylan and Dulcie and loving father-in-law to Steve, Sara and John.

Ted will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

Funeral service on Friday, March 31st at 12 noon at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry. Family flowers only. Donations, if so desired, by cheque to the Alzheimer's Society, c/o Park Funeral Directors, 7 Tynewydd Road, Barry, CF62 8HB.

TUCKER
Mary Elizabeth
(Née Williams)

Peacefully on 11 March, aged 88 years, at Milsom House Care House, St Athan, after a long illness. Loving wife of the late Dilwyn, sister of Gilbert and the late Margaret. Sister-in-law of Rose and much loved aunty to Steve, Paul, Julie and Lisa and all her great nieces and nephews.

Resting at Thomas Brothers Funeral Directors until the service at Coychurch Crematorium on Friday, 24 March at 10am. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu of flowers may be sent to Parkinson's UK, 215 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, SW1V 1EJ.

ROGERS
June Patricia
Née Bennett (Formerly Brennan)

The family wish to announce the sad passing of June on March 18th at the University Hospital Of Wales. Beloved wife of the late Derek (Rod) and much loved mum of Ticia, Richard, Robert, Tina, Jane and David. A respected mother-in-law, cherished nan and great nan to all her grandchildren.

She will be greatly missed by all her family and close friends.

June is in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until her service at St Peter's Church, Lettons Way, Dinas Powys on Friday, April 7th at 1.45pm, followed by cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium.

Family floral tributes only - donations if desired may be made at the service or via June's online tribute page at www.valefuneralservice.co.uk, where you are also welcome to leave your personal messages and memories.

All donations received to support Marie Curie Hospice.

GORE
Thomas William B.E.M.

Peacefully on 21st March in Milsom House, Tom, aged 81 years, of Llantwit Major. Beloved wife of Brenda, dearly loved dad of Karen and the late Stephen. Devoted granddad to Sophie, Isabel and James.

He will be greatly missed by his loving family and friends.

Resting at W.A. Brown & Son, Llantwit Major until the funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Tuesday, 28th March at 10.30am.

Family flowers only please.

In Memory

LEON ASHLEY PAYNE

We only have a picture now,
A frozen piece of time to remind us of how it was, when you were here with us.
Miss you forever
Love Mum and Emma xxx

STEWART
Hagar Rosina Margaret
(Known as Maggie)

Mother's Day - In Memory

No cards or gifts today mam, only loving memories.

Always in our thoughts.

Love always
Annette, Jean and Christopher xxx

HARVEY
Gerrard Steven

Two tired eyes are sleeping,
Two willing hands are still,
You worked so hard for one and all,
Now resting as God's will,
Words are few,
Thoughts are deep,
Now you have eternal sleep.

Good night, God Bless Gerrard.
With love Maggie and George.

Acknowledgements

ROGER BEECHEY

Passed on 30 March 2014

Thanks for the memories,
Love Frances

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DENNIS
Val

Louise, Violet, Gill and Jeff would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for attending Val's funeral.

Thanks to Father Chris for a lovely service and to those who donated to Ty Hapus.

BOWKETT
Bob

Sheryll and family wish to thank relatives, friends, neighbours and the RAF who attended Bob's funeral. The family would also like to thank those who sent messages of sympathy and donations for Bob's chosen charity.

Thanks also to Reverend Heather Weddell for the lovely service and Andrew Thomas of Thomas Brothers for the efficient arrangements made with sympathy, care and understanding.

Anniversaries

Diamond Wedding Anniversary!

March 23rd

To a wonderful mum and dad

Sid and Jean Pycroft

Congratulations on your very special day

All our love Paul, Tracey and Chelsea, and your very much loved grandchildren Christian, Eirian, Aoghan and Meurig

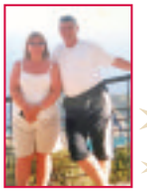
Happy Ruby Wedding Anniversary

Mum and Dad
(Sharon & Sandy Hutcheon)
On 26 March

Lots of love
Nichola, Scott, Melanie, Michelle, Rhys, Chelsea, Arianne and Eleri xxx

40th
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
on 26 March

Sharon & Sandy Hutcheon



To my gorgeous wife, thanks for the best 40 years of my life.
All my love Sandy xxx

Thank You

THANK YOU
80

Brian Acott would like to thank family and friends for making 18th March such a special occasion.

Situations Vacant

The GEM
EDITORIAL VACANCY

The Glamorgan GEM has a vacancy for a journalist to join a busy news team producing our four weekly print titles and digital edition.

We are looking for someone with drive and initiative to help widen our coverage of local news and issues.

You will need to be self-motivated; able to work quickly and accurately under pressure of tight deadlines; and be willing to go the extra mile as a fully-committed, flexible team player in a demanding role.

Apple/Mac familiarity an advantage, but training will be given. Salary negotiable, depending on experience.

Apply with full cv (marked 'EDITORIAL VACANCY') to: Don John, Editor, The Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL

Email don.john@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Personal Assistant(s) Wanted

A disabled man in the Pontyclun areas offering a part time job for up to 24 hours per week. The purpose of the job is to support with all aspects of daily living.

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in its Barry office is looking to recruit an experienced legal secretary.

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Apply sending your cv by e-mail to : **k.hoskins@robsols.co.uk** or Kay Hoskins, 6 Park Place, Cardiff, CF10 3RS.

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Please ring: **01202 811666**

email **info@thedistributionbusiness.co.uk**

If we do not have an immediate vacancy in your area, your details will be placed on our waiting list until a suitable opportunity occurs.

Articles For Sale

ADVERTISE HERE £12 inc. VAT - box for 2 weeks. **For Motors** - £24 inc. VAT for 2 weeks. To take advantage of this offer simply either send in your description along with a cheque for the appropriate amount made payable to 'The Glamorgan GEM' at The GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or telephone us with your wording by 12 noon Tuesday. All major credit cards accepted. Tel 01446 774484. Advert must contain a residential land line telephone number. You may alter your advert as items are sold. **Sorry no refunds are given.**

Acorn Slimline Stairlift for straight stairs. Price includes fitting by trained engineer. **£500** **01446 711739** 11/12

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Surplus Power Tools Mantis petrol garden tiller **£105.** McCulloch petrol strimmer **£50.** Qualcast electric grass trimmer **£30.** Wolf electric power washer **£60.** All in good condition. **01446 737235** 12

Bee Hives for Sale National Hives **01656 860597** (answer phone available) 11

Dry Wood for Sale for wood burning stove. Collection only. **01446 774360** 12

FOR SALE Table Tennis Table - Kettler, All weather. Full Sized. Folds. New condition. **£100** Gents Ankle Boots. Brown Leather. Size 8 1/2 Never worn. **£25** **Tel 01446 773960** 11

Iron frame piano Collection only. VGC. **£20** **01446 621049** 12

Laurel Hedging Approx 35 Shrubs. Height 18 to 24 inches. **£4** each or **£120** the lot **01446 760508** after 6pm **07743 426270** 11

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Are you moving? Free to Collector 30 Professional moving boxes. Medium size. **01446 772881** 11

Motors For Sale

Ford Focus 1.6 Sport Silver, petrol, 104,000 miles, 12 months MOT, VGC, 4 brand new tyres. **£995 ono** **07988 560994** 12

2006 Smartcar Auto Black & Cream, 698cc, 12 months MOT, 47,000 miles. **£1,995 ono** **01446 794620** 12

JSTKD students impress at the English Championships

THE team from JSTKD Martial Arts & Fitness were in unstoppable form at the recent English Tae Kwon Do Championships, returning home with two new champions, as well as an assortment of medals.

The team comprised: Menna Burmingham, Rhys Doel, Josh and Sean Edwards, Alex Munn, Zak and Joe Grinter, Alisha Roberts and Cai Selby.

Unfortunately, two team members (Harri Burmingham and Sion Selby) were unwell so were not able to attend.

First on was Menna, who was competing in the girls black belt patterns - a very hotly contested event!

Menna had to go through three increasingly pressurised rounds, each time having to deliver her intricate pattern with the same level of accuracy and composure.

In the final head-to-head round, she gave an unbeatable performance, to claim the coveted title of English champion.

However, she was still not finished winning medals, and added a hard won bronze in the girls middleweight black belt sparring event.

More black belt action came from Josh and Sean, who both put in a great effort in the sparring events but didn't quite make the finals this time - although Josh didn't come home empty-handed as he went on later, to take part in the black belt boys tag team event where his team claimed the silver.

JSTKD's reigning north Wales champion, Rhys, was also in action in the boys middleweight black belt sparring. After getting past the preliminary rounds, he reluctantly found himself bowing out to the eventual winner.

Across in the colour belts, the other team members were also making sure they made their mark.

Joe, the newest and youngest team member, turned in a storming performance, to go through each of his many rounds with a remarkably cool head.

Finding himself in the final, he continued to keep his focus and scooped the well-deserved English champion trophy in the boys tiny tots yellow belt division.

Big brother Zak was making short work of his opponents too in the boys peewee green belts and thanks to a variety of great kicks, clinched the bronze.

Alex Munn was equally busy in the boys' lightweight green belts. He put up a fantastic fight, not even conceding a point in his first round, and eventually came away with the silver.

There was another top-notch performance from Alisha in the girls' middleweight blue belt sparring. Despite being new to this division, Alisha was in fine form, using her skills to great effect to collect a well-earned bronze medal for her efforts.

In the boys' lightweight yellow belts, Cai made sure he made things as difficult as possible for his opponent before leaving the competition.

JSTKD offers a free taster lesson for all new students who would like to try Tae Kwon Do for themselves - full details at www.jstkd.co.uk. **VW**

A frosty sunrise – CAPTURED BY LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHER

LOCAL photographer Sue Dobbs headed out early one morning recently, to capture the sunrise over Heol Lathog – and it proved well worth the effort, as she was rewarded with this dazzling shot. (You can see more of Sue's work on http://susandobbsphotography.co.uk)

'Hands off diesel engines!' *says reader*

HERE we go again... Let's all go bashing the private motorist – this time it's the owners of diesel engine cars.

For the most part, the average diesel-powered car is about two litres. It is used maybe one hour in the morning and one hour in the evening. Small fry really.

The local diesel-electric powered trains are started in the morning and are kept running all day, whether on a run or not (*Wikipedia source : the diesel electric trains used locally emit 32,000 tons of nitrogen oxide and 1000 tons of soot annually*).

The intercity trains really belch it out, and they also are kept running all day. These trains are operated whether they are full to capacity or not. It doesn't really matter how many passengers are on board, the fact is, the engine is kept running.

While we are on about passenger numbers, the ghost bus from Cardiff to the airport still uses the same fuel as a commuter bus from Cardiff to Barry. Have you ever wondered about the size of lorry engines – and they use diesel fuel?

OK, the British lorries are subject to emission checks, but what about the lorries from the Continent: are they checked, I wonder.

I am sure we have all seen building sites with dumper trucks, diggers and such like, but this plant is kept running most of the time without even the hint of emission checks.

Did anyone see the news item on television about the open cast coal mine at Merthyr? There was plant running around everywhere carrying high carbon fossil fuel and they, the dump trucks and the diggers, all had diesel engines. The boats that we see going to and from Cardiff, Birdport, and Avonmouth all have really massive engines, which never stop.

Let's also think of the farming community with their tractors, harvesters and generators, or the Forces or the emergency services... the list goes on.

No, Mr Minister of Transport, don't point your finger at the humble motorist with his small diesel car.

DAVE ADAMS, Barry.

Barry Town Mayor's Award

THE Mayor of Barry is inviting the public to nominate someone they consider is worthy of the Mayor's award for services to the community.

There are two categories, adult and youth, and nominees can be drawn from the arts, sport, voluntary work, or any other area.

"If you know someone who has given their time and commitment to the community and feel that they should be considered for this award, please let us know," a spokesperson said.

Nominations should be sent in writing, detailing the reasons why you feel they should be considered, to the Town Mayor, Barry Town Council, 7 Gladstone Road, Barry, CF62 8NA to be received no later than Friday, April 14. Successful nominees will be advised on April 28.

For further information, contact Julie Hurd, the Mayor's Secretary, on 01446 704921, or via email at juliehurd@barrytowncouncil.gov.uk

Public Notice

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980
THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
(PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO 5 BONVILSTON)
PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER 2014

On the 2 March 2017 the Welsh Ministers confirmed the above Order made under section 119 of the Highways Act 1980.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to divert the public footpath running from NGR 30637 17406 to NGR 30615 17437 to a line running from NGR 30637 17406 to NGR 30615 17437 as set out in the Schedule and shown in the Order map.

A copy of the Order as confirmed and the Order map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Docks Office, Subway Road, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan CF63 4RT during normal office hours. Copies of the Order and map may be bought there at a price of £4.50.

This Order comes into force on 2 March 2017, but if a person aggrieved by the Order wants to question its validity, or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the Highways Act 1980, as amended, or on the ground that any requirement of the Act, as amended, or of any regulation made under the Act has not been complied with in relation to the Order, he or she may, under paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from 23 March 2017 make an application to the High Court.

Dated this 23 March 2017

HYSBYSIAD CADARNHAU GORCHYMYN LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS
DEDDF PRIFFYRDD 1980
GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG
(LLWYBR CERDDED CYHOEDDUS RHIF 5 TRESIMWN)
GWYRO LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS 2014

Ar 2 Mawrth 2017 cadarnhaodd Gweinidogion Cymru y Gorchymyn uchod a wnaethpwyd dan adran 119 Deddf Priffyrdd 1980.

Bydd y Gorchymyn hwn, fel y'i cadarnheir, yn gwyro'r llwybr cerdded cyhoeddus o NGR 30637 17406 i NGR 30615 17437 i linell sy'n rhedeg o NGR 30637 17406 i NGR 30615 17437 fel y nodir yn yr Atodlen ac fel y dengys ar fap y Gorchymyn.

Mae copi o'r Gorchymyn fel y'i cadarnhawyd a map y Gorchymyn wedi eu gosod a gellir mynd i'w gweld am ddim yn Swyddfa'r Dociau, Heol yr Isffordd, Y Barri, Bro Morgannwg, CF63 4RT yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol. Gellir prynu copïau o'r Gorchymyn a map y Gorchymyn yno am £4.50.

Daw'r Gorchymyn i rym ar 2 Mawrth 2017 ond os bydd person yn teimlo ei fod wedi'i dramgwyddo gan y Gorchymyn ac yn amau ei ddilysrwydd, neu unrhyw ddarpariaethau sydd wedi'u cynnwys ynddo, ar y sail nad yw o fewn pwerau Deddf Priffyrdd 1980 fel y'i diwygiwyd, neu ar y sail na chydymffurfiwyd ag unrhyw un o ofynion y Ddeddf, fel y'i diwygiwyd, neu unrhyw reoliad a wnaed dan y Ddeddf mewn cysylltiad â'r Gorchymyn, gall, dan baragraff 2 Atodlen 2 y Ddeddf fel y nodir ym mharagraff 5 Atodlen 6 o'r Ddeddf, o fewn 6 wythnos o 23 Mawrth 2017 wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys.

Dyddiedig 23 Mawrth 2017

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Barry YMCA gymnasts really make the grade

THIRTEEN gymnasts from YMCA Barry gymnastics club were delighted when they were all successful in passing their gymnastics gradings.

They had to demonstrate a number of set skills within routines on vault, bars, beam, floor and range and conditioning, and then score over a certain mark to pass.

While the grades are about recognising personal achievement, awards were also presented to gymnasts from the South Central area who scored the highest on each of the pieces and overall.

The first grade is grade 6 and gymnasts have to be a minimum of eight years to try this grade. In this category YMCA Barry were well represented with Aliyah Weston, Casey Moores, Emmy Saddler, Melissa Cookson, Millie Williams, Rosie Bishop and Ruby Clark all successfully taking part.

Casey, Emmy, Millie and Rosie all scored a distinction, with Aliyah, Melissa and Ruby earning well-deserved commendations.

Mille was awarded a gold medal for placing joint first on vault and a sixth place ribbon for her overall total. Casey also claimed a gold medal for her bar routine while Rosie gained a bronze on bars.

Neave Cummins, Roxy Frost, Seren Doel and Stacie White were all in the 'out of age' grade 6 category where they had similar success to their younger club mates.

Roxy, Seren and Stacie all achieved commendations while Neave earned a well-deserved pass. All four gymnasts also climbed onto the podium.

Stacie had a particularly successful day, becoming the overall South Central champion. She also gained gold medals for her beam and bars, a silver medal on floor and a bronze medal on range and conditioning.

Roxie gained a silver medal for her overall total as well as a silver for her beam routine and a bronze for bars.

Neave climbed to the top of the podium when she gained gold for her floor routine and also received silver medals for her vault and bars, and a fifth place ribbon for her total score.

Team mate Seren was delighted when she was awarded a bronze medal for her total score.

Hana Davies competed in the grade 5 event where she demonstrated five fantastic performances.

She achieved a distinction and became the South Central Grade 5 champion. She also gained gold medals for her beam and floor, and silver medals for her bar, vault and range and conditioning routine.

Her excellent performances resulted in her selection to represent the South Central area at the Welsh Grades Finals. Yazmin Michael was the sole representative from Barry in the grade 4 event. She was delighted to pass her grading and receive a sixth place ribbon for her overall score.

Congratulations to all of the gymnasts who worked very hard in the build up to the gradings.

Thank you to the coaches at YMCA Barry for their continued dedication to helping the gymnasts and for giving up their weekend to attend the gradings.

YMCA Barry run a large programme of gymnastics opportunities for boys and girls of all ages and ability levels. If you are interested in finding out more information please contact 01446 724001.

KD

Llantwit Major & District Darts League update

THE Llantwit Major and District Darts League season entered its 23rd week with the highlights being:

John Pengelly 180, Nick Smith 180, Steve Davie 180, Trevor Jaynes 171, Will Cooke 115 out, Simon Reader 102 out, Steve Cooke 100 out, Simon Reader and Bron Baelz 18 dart leg, Stewart Edwards 18 dart leg, Gary Randall 19 dart leg.

The Kings Head 'A1' put one hand on the league trophy, as they beat second-placed Wenvoe Arms 'A' 8-3 in a high scoring encounter.

With the Lamb 'C1' in a seemingly impregnable position at the top of the 'C' League the race is hotting up for second place with a number of top five encounters taking place in the coming weeks.

This week third-placed Lamb 'C2' beat the Shoes St Athan 'C' 6-5 in a match where there was never more than one leg in it.

The gents semi-finals night takes place on Thursday, March 23 at the Rugby Club with the draw for the order of play at 7.45pm with the first match starting at 8pm.

The ladies semi-finals night took place on March 16 and through to the finals on March 30 are: Ladies singles: Julie Cheal v Tanya Daw; Ladies pairs: Julie Cheal/Gaynor Dale v Becky Evans/Laura Hemming; Ladies threes: Julie Cheal/Gaynor Dale/Lyn Butcher v Jean Griffiths/Gill & Beth Theophilus; Mixed pairs: Martin Gaffney/Gaynor Dale v Steve Davie/Tanya Daw; Eddie Meredith: Kings Head 'A1' v Wenvoe Arms 'A'.

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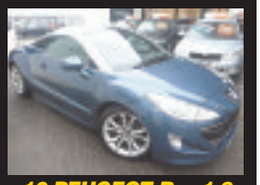

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11 RANGE ROVER 4.4 TDV8 Vogue Auto In met grey with black leather trim, 84,000 miles ..**£21,995**

61 FORD S-Max Titanium X 2.2 TDCi Sport In midnight sky, 26,000 miles, 7 seater diesel ....**REDUCED TO £16,495**

63 VOLKWAGEN Tiguan 2.0 TDi Match Auto 4x4 In silver, 39,000 mile diesel **£14,995**

96 JAGUAR XK8 Automatic In met-green with cream leather, only 23,000 miles from new, superb example **£14,995**

59 BMW Z4 5 Drive 35i Auto In met-grey with leather trim, 59,000 mile convertable at **£13,995**

13 VOLKSWAGEN Passat CC Blue Motion-Tech 2.0 TDi Automatic In black, only 19,000 miles, superb example at .....**REDUCED TO £12,995**

60 MERCEDES C180 Sport Auto In white, 36,000 miles, superb example at **£10,995**

10 LANDROVER Freelander HSE TD4 2.2 E In silver with black leather, sat-nav, pan-roof **£9,995**

14 VAUXHALL Insignia 1.8 SRi 5-Dr In met silver, 30,000 mile family hatch **£9,495**

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15 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 TechLine 5-Dr In black, 26,000 mile family hatch **£8,495**

63 NISSAN Juke 1.6 Vis In white, low mileage local example at **£8,495**

62 VOLKSWAGEN Jetta 1.6 Diesel Automatic Blue Motion SE In met-grey, 55,000 miles, 1 owner.....**£8,495**

11 NISSAN Qashqai 1.5 DCi Accenta In met-burgundy, 47,000 miles diesel at **£8,495**

10 FORD S-Max 2.0 TDCi Zetec Automatic In black, 68,000 miles, diesel 7-seater **£8,495**

14 RENAULT Clio 1.5 DCi Dynamique Media Nav 5-Dr In silver, 39,000 miles, free road tax..... .....**REDUCED TO £7,995**

13 MINI One 1.6 In red, 31,000 miles, 1 owner with alloys, climate, pepper pack.....**£7,995**

62 FORD Mondeo 2.0 TDCi Zetec 140 5-Dr In silver, 53,000 miles, diesel hatch **£7,995**

62 CITROEN DS3 D Sport Plus 1.6 THP In white with black roof, 48,000 miles, full leather trim.....**£7,995**

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09 MAZDA MX5 1.8i Roadster Coupe In true red, 48,000 miles, solid roof convertible **£7,995**

57 MERCEDES SLK 200 Auto In silver with red leather, 72,000 miles, convertible **£7,995**

15 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Zetec 3-Dr In red, 12,000 miles, under Ford warranty **£7,695**

13 PEUGEOT 3008 Aless HDi 5-Dr In met red, 29,000 miles **£7,695**

14 VAUXHALL Adam Glam 1.4 In very berry with cream roof, 25,000 miles, 1 owner, bluetooth, pan roof etc **£7,595**

15 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 SRi Ecoflex 3-Dr In black, 23,000 miles **£7,495**

64 SUZUKI Swift 1.2 SZL 3-Dr In black with white roof, 19,000 miles, 1 owner **£7,495**

63 CITROEN DS3 1.6 HDi Style-E In encre met with white roof, 52,000 mile diesel hatch, free road tax **£7,495**

62 FORD Fiesta 1.6 Metal 3-Dr In black, 26,000 miles, sporty hatch with leather trim **£7,495**

10 SKODA Yeti 1.2 TSi SE In aqua blue, 46,000 miles .....**REDUCED BY £500 TO £7,495**

08 BMW 320i M-Sport Coupe In silver, 70,000 miles with alloys a/c etc **£7,495**

63 RENAULT Megane 1.5 Diesel Coupe 'Knight Edition' 40,000 miles, free road tax **£6,995**

63 FORD Fiesta 1.5 TDCi Zetec 3-Dr In black, 56,000 miles. 1 owner, free road tax **£6,995**

62 SKODA Octavia 1.6 TDi SE Auto Estate In silver, 70,000 mile diesel at.....**£6,995**

61 FORD C-max 1.6 TDCi Titanium In silver, 69,000 miles, diesel practical hatch **£6,995**

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07 NISSAN X-trail 2.0 Diesel Avent T2 In black, 90,000 miles, full leather.....**£6,495**

64 PEUGEOT 108 Active 3-Dr In red, 23,000 miles, 1 owner, free road tax **£6,295**

12 TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 VVTi TD 5-Dr Automatic In met-red, 60,000 miles **£5,995**

62 SKODA Rapid SE TSi 5-Dr In white, 59,958 miles, very nice example at **£5,995**

61 CITROEN DS3 1.6 HDi Style In white with black roof, 73,000 miles, diesel, free road tax **£5,995**

08 JAGUAR X-Type 2.2 Diesel 'S' Auto In black, 54,000 miles, full leather etc **£5,995**

11 CITROEN C3 Picasso 1.6 HDi Exclusive In met-grey, 63,000 miles, diesel **£5,695**

10 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.6 TDCi SE 5-Dr In met blue, 74,000 miles, diesel hatch **£5,495**

54 VOLVO XC90 D5 2.3 SE AWD Auto In silver with black leather, diesel, 7 seater 4x4 .....**£5,495**

12 FORD Fiesta 1.4 TDCi Zetec 5-Dr In black, 76,000 mile diesel at **£4,995**

11 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 SE 5-Dr In met grey, 41,000 miles with air-con etc **£4,995**

61 RENAULT Clio 1.6 GT Line VVTi Automatic In blue, 16,000 miles, with sat-nav ....**REDUCED BY £500 TO £4,995**

60 FORD Focus 1.6 Zetec 5-Dr In silver, 47,000 miles family hatch **£4,995**

10 FORD Focus 1.6 Titanium 5-Dr In silver, 56,000 miles, high spec family hatch at **£4,995**

09 VAUXHALL Insignia 2.0 CDTi (130) SE 5-Dr In silver, 83,000 miles, diesel hatch **£4,995**

11 MAZDA 2 Sport 1.5 5-Dr In spirited green, 74,000 miles, very nice throughout ....**REDUCED BY £300 TO £4,695**

58 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.9 TDi (105) 5-Dr Match In met grey, 70,000 miles, diesel **£4,695**

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60 VAUXHALL Astra 1.7 Diesel Exclusive 5-Dr In silver, 81,000 miles **£4,495**

59 SKODA Fabia '3' Automatic 1.6 5-Dr In met blue, 50,000 miles..... **£4,295**

08 VOLKSWAGEN Eos 2.0 Convertable In black, 79,000 miles, 4 seater with solid roof **£4,295**

60 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0 Ecoflex Energy 3-Dr In red, 52,000 miles, one owner **£3,995**

60 CITROEN C1 VTR+ 5-Dr In red, 46,000 miles, low insurance and road tax **£3,995**

59 MAZDA 3 Sport 2.0 5-dr In black, sat-nav a/c etc, fantastic value **£3,995**

09 SEAT Ibiza 1.2S 3-Dr In nayara blue, 55,000 miles, low insurance..... **£3,995**

56 MINI One Convertable In silver, 85,000 miles with pepper pack, a/c, heated seats etc **£3,995**

58 TOTOYA Yaris 1.3 TR 5-Dr In red, 60,000 miles, very nice example **£3,795**

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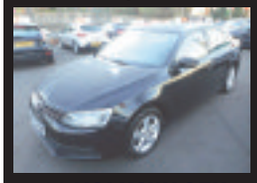

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Barry Town's title hunt remains on after victory

CHAMPIONSHIP-chasing Barry Town reached the 50 point mark at the weekend, recording their fourth successive triumph in Welsh League Division One to maintain their position on top of the pile.

After valuable victories over Port Talbot Town, Cambrian & Clydach Vale and Haverfordwest County, Gavin Chesterfield's Town ran out 2-0 winners against Taffs Well at Rhiw'r Ddar, mirroring the outcome between the sides at Jenner Park in November.

In a competitive match contested on an unforgiving pitch, leaders Barry seized the advantage inside the first half, when in-form midfielder Louis Gerrard successfully converted from the penalty spot.

However, the Town would have to wait until the second to make the three points fully secure, substitute Jordan Cotterill shrugging off illness to float a superlative free-kick into space, with returning teammate James Dixon connecting well to beat out-rushing goalkeeper Wyn Walters.

The visitors' decisive second was Dixon's 77th goal in Town colours, on what was the forward's 150th appearance for the club.

At the opposite end, the Barry back four of Luke Cooper, Paul Morgan, Chris Hugh and Curtis Watkins helped goalkeeper Mike Lewis complete a fourth consecutive clean sheet, adding to his haul in a spotless March to date.

By completing a rare Welsh League double over the Wellmen, Barry extended their lead at the top of Division One to an encouraging six-point margin, with chasing contenders Goytre, Cambrian and Caerau Ely all experiencing defeats on the weekend, to Monmouth Town, Undy Athletic and Ton Pentre respectively.

This Saturday afternoon sees fourth-placed Caerau make the short trip to Jenner Park in a 2.30pm kick-off, while the sides in second and third collide in Gwent, as Goytre tackle Haverfordwest at Plough Road.

Admission to the match between Barry and Caerau Ely is the regular £5 at the turnstiles, with concessions available for senior citizens, students and the next generation of supporters.

AC

The Barry and District League tables and all the results

CRIB DIVISION 1:

Moors Boys 8, Cadoxton Cons 7; West End Runaways 7, Wyndham Cons 8; Liberals 7, West End 8.

League table: Liberals 154, Rhoose Social 151, Moors Boys 146, Wyndham Cons 143, West End 134, West End Runaways 133, Cadoxton Cons 129.

SKITTLES DIVISION 1:

Sea View B 5, West End D 2; King William XII 2, Rhoose Social C 5; Allsorts 2, Barries Boys 5; Liberals C 2, Cambrian Flyers 5; Rhoosters 2, Rhoose Social A 5; Rhoose Social B 2, West End C 5.

League table: West End C 90, West End D 83, Sea View B 80, King William XII 78.5, Allsorts 74.5, Rhoosters 74, Rugby Club 70, Rhoose Social C 69.5, Barries Boys 67, Rhoose Social B 63.5, Slammers 59.5, Rhoose Social A 58, Liberals C 57.5, Cambrian Flyers 51, Liberals A 46.

SNOOKER DIVISION 1:

Cadoxton Cons B 2, Rhoose Social C 3; Savoy A 4, Cadoxton Cons Z 1; Penarth Cons A 5, Services Social B 0; Rhoose Social B 1, West End C 4; Penarth Cons B 1, Harbour B 4.

League table: Harbour B 88, Savoy A 81, Cadoxton Cons Z 65, Wyndham Cons A 56, Cadoxton Cons B 52, West End C 49, Penarth Cons A 46, Rhoose Social B 46, Rhoose Social C 34, Penarth Cons B 33, Services Social B 30.

SNOOKER DIVISION 2:

Harbour A 3, Market Street B 2; Cadoxton Cons A 4, Wyndham Cons D 1; Market Street C 3, Sully Sports A 2; West End A 2, Savoy B 3.

League table: Savoy B 68, Liberators 67, Wyndham Cons C 65, Market Street B 61, Harbour A 60, Cadoxton Cons A 58, Market Street C 49, West End B 44, Wyndham Cons D 41, West End A 39, Sully Sports A 38 (* = points deducted).

All league and cup fixtures and results at www.barryleagues.co.uk and on Facebook - search for 'barry leagues'.

JW

The Dinas Powys ladies reach yet another Cup final!

Dinas Powys Ladies made it to another final, this in the Alun Evans Cup, after another solid defensive performance saw them edge Splott Albion Ladies 1-0.

With the kick-off delayed the ladies had an extra hour of waiting around but you would have never noticed this as the Villagers came out of the blocks at 100 miles per hour.

Having a number of changes forced upon the squad from last Sunday's match, yet again the strength in depth was vital.

Laura Murray managed to link up with Demi Bounds but instead of pulling the ball back she fired into the side netting.

Gemma Crowley and Murray were causing a lot of problems early on, turning the visitors back four as Crowley found space.

Dinas welcomed Beccy Rees back for her first start of the season after a six year lay-off and Beccy put in a superb shift, winning her midfield battle.

Fellow midfielder Jo Jones had a point to prove as she formed a great partnership with Rees.

Dinas' season has been built on a solid defensive unit that limits opposition to half chances and pot shots.

Splott have pace in their attack but Beare, Tuck, Cox and Allen stuck to their jobs very well. It took 35 minutes for the visitors to get their first shot off which Naomio Wilson had to be alert to.

The game as a contest was evenly matched as both defences were performing very well in the first half.

Five minutes into the second half Dinas made their first changes, bringing on Taylor Page and Laura Lewis for Demi Bounds and Gemma Crowley.

Both had great displays but the home side needed to change their shape to break down a stubborn defence.

Within minutes this had the desired effect as Page found space and time to hit a cross that looped over the keeper's head into the back of the net.

Alicia Cox and Laura Lewis linked up very well down the right in the later stages keeping Splott on the back foot.

Dinas then settled down into two banks of four and hit the visitors on the break. Molly Chapman was vital in this with a work rate that is very hard to match.

Murray put the ball in the back of the net but was adjusted off side. The home side stood strong and high pressing from Chapman and Murray saw the ball drop to Leanne Pattermore just outside the box who saw her shot blocked just yards off the line.

As the clock ticked down Dinas showed how to see a game out keeping it high and wide. Lady of the game Beccy Rees as she rolled back the years.

The girls now look forward to another final on May 7 after the young Dinas Powys boys under-14s play their final in the morning.

LS

Local junior school scores a first for disability sport in the Vale of Glamorgan

Simon Jones (right) leads DIT at St Helen's RC Junior School.

ST HELEN'S RC Junior School in Barry recently became the first school in the Vale of Glamorgan to undertake 'Mini Disability Inclusion Training' (Mini DIT).

All 176 pupils at the school spent a lesson learning how to include disabled people in sporting activities, and how to "adapt games to be inclusive".

Mini DIT was created by Disability Sport Wales to "raise awareness of disability sport, and demonstrate how disabled friends can be included in the activities pupils take part in during school and outside of school".

Back to action for Barry RFC

WITH the Six Nations now over, it's back to league action for Barry RFC this weekend when they entertain Abercynon on Saturday, kicking off at 2.30pm.

It is hoped that the team can build on their recent improved performances and finish this last part of the season on a high.

Last week's lottery numbers were 04, 05, 14 and 24, which again failed to produce a winner - this week's jackpot will be £4,100.

AJ

The Dinas Powys Wolves represent Vale League

DINAS POWYS Wolves were chosen to represent the Vale of Glamorgan League to play against a select team from the Merthyr Leagues at Penydarren Park on the weekend.

Bayley Harewood opened the scoring early on before the home side drew level. Kyle Booker and Callum Hewitson increased the lead again to 3-1 as the visitors looked comfortable.

Halfway through the second period Dinas lost Tylor Williams through injury and the reshuffle allowed Merthyr to get a head of steam up.

Merthyr pressed on, deservedly drawing level again, and in injury they managed to snatch the win with the last kick.

Thank you to the Vale League committee for providing the opportunity and supporting the boys on the day, and thank you for the hospitality provided by Merthyr FC - the parents and players had an enjoyable day out. **It was derby day for this semi-final in the under-14s cup as Dinas Powys Wolves and Dinas Powys Lions locked horns.**

These games are always played a such friendly environment with plenty of respect being shown from all the parents and players.

Wolves made an early break through as Rian Thomas, Bayley Harewood and Callum Hewitson gave them a 3-0 lead within 25 minutes, and another goal from Rian Thomas put the game to bed.

Wolves saw out the second period as skipper Zac Fifield commanded his back line.

LS

RESULTS DIP FOR BARRY CHESS CLUB

AFTER the euphoria of four wins reported last week we have played a further four matches - unfortunately the results were not as successful as we would have hoped for.

In round three of the Welsh Premier League we went down by 4-2 to Nidum. After our good start in round one we have lost both of our other matches and sit in fifth place out of six with two rounds to go.

It is still possible to finish in second place if we can win both of our remaining matches convincingly.

Our points came from a win by Sam Jukes and draws by Lee Davis and Pete Heaven. For Lee, he remains unbeaten in this year's tournament being one of our ever present players.

In division one there were two results for the Bosons. In round 14 we made the short trip to Cardiff to take on the mighty Castles. We returned home with only draws from Sam Jukes and Dave Parsons.

The level of the defeat matches exactly what happened in the reverse fixture before Christmas.

The significant result here was Alex Bullen defeating Steve Cunliffe. Steve has played in every match for the Bosons this season and this was his first loss.

This was followed by a home match against the Nelson Rhinos.

In this match there were wins for Matthew Davies and Sam Jukes together with draws for Matthew Parry, Steve Cunliffe and Rhys Steele.

This was a rare outing for Rhys this season as his studies in Oxford have restricted his opportunities to play. This 3.5-1.5 victory lifts the Bosons up to fourth in the table but with only three points separating fourth and eighth we are not safe yet even though there are only three rounds to play.

There was also a match at home for the Gambits in division four. Their opponents were the Pontypridd Thirds.

Pontypridd have gained a couple of strong players this season and both the Phoenix and Thirds look likely to be champions in their respective divisions, so a hard match was anticipated.

Their top four boards all outrated our top board we expected a whitewash. However late replacement Ray Denyer saved our blushes earning a good draw on board 4.

The rest of us, although beaten, had chances that we didn't take. The Bosons remain in fifth place but the Cavaliers are closing rapidly.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club, St. Nicholas Road, Barry, CF62 6QY. The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

For more details visit our website at http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com.

PHIL JONES

For all the latest sports news from your area, visit our website - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Romilly is ready for bowls season

BARRY Romilly Men's Bowls Club are busy preparing for the forthcoming outdoor season which commences on Saturday, April 15.

The club side once again will be looking to challenge for the First Division title while the A side will be playing in Division 3 after gaining promotion again last year having been promoted the previous season.

In preparation for the season the men's section will be holding a pre-season meeting on Saturday, March 25 at the clubhouse at Romilly Park commencing at 10am where all members are requested to attend.

Also any men interested in taking up bowls are very welcome to come along and introduce themselves where they can be assured of a very welcome.

FJP

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SIX NATIONS RUGBY

FRANCE 20 - WALES 18

STEADFAST DEFENCE, BUT QUESTIONS REMAIN OVER ATTACK

The 20-minute French farce cannot obscure the failings that are holding Wales back

Photos by HUW EVANS AGENCY.

ABOVE: 6 out of 6... Leigh Halfpenny, the only Welsh name on the scoreboard, was in superb kicking form. ABOVE, right: where the damage was done.

ABOVE: George North complains he was bitten on the arm – the evidence was later ruled as "inconclusive." LEFT: Despair on Welsh faces as the reality of a third defeat sinks in.

BACK PAGE COMMENT

by Don John

AS the sound and fury of rugby's version of the Longest Day subsides, and gives way to cooler reflection, Saturday's farcical climax to the RBS Six Nations should not obscure the wider picture for Wales that goes beyond the controversial 20-18 defeat in Paris.

Amid chaotic scenes, as normal full time approached, embattled Wales were clinging to a five-point lead at 18-13, but under constant siege on their own line from the juggernaut French pack, when 80 minutes then stretched to an astonishing 100 minutes.

Wales, who had already lost both first choice second rows, Jake Ball and skipper Alun Wyn Jones to injury, at one time were down to 14 men with a player in the bin and were in desperate straits.

Confusion reigned, with players coming and going in bewildering fashion, and hard-pressed referee, Wayne Barnes, awarded Les Bleus a stream of penalties and 12 successive scrums five metres out – Wales were fortunate not to concede a penalty try that would have mercifully brought the long drawn-out proceedings to a close.

Overwhelming French power finally told and typically brave Welsh resistance was finally broken with a converted try, to end the game with 20 extra minutes on the clock – but in dubious circumstances, with the Welsh camp crying 'foul!'

France had brought back on to the field their first choice tight head prop (who had earlier been substituted), the team doctor claiming his replacement needed to go off for a head injury assessment, although the latter had already told the referee he was not injured, but had a sore back!

It prompted a furious reaction from caretaker Wales head coach Robert Howley, who told the post-match media conference: *"Integrity in our game is pretty important. Player welfare is equally important…(but)… what happened in the last 10 minutes of that game shouldn't ever happen again on an international rugby field… The process leading up to the change of the French tighthead – the way that occurred – we love our game too much to have those decisions.*

"It's hugely disappointing, the process that occurred prior to him warming up before going back on. One of their coaches went outside the technical area, had a word with their doctor and within a minute of that, he went on during a break in play and took their tighthead off…it's outside the laws of the game," he insisted.

Asked if he would call it 'cheating', Howley replied – *"No, I just question the integrity of the decision that was made. If you want to call it that, it's up to you…"*

The Welsh camp, rightly, had no quarrel with referee Barnes – "*who had listened to a medic"* – over the decision – but it was too early to say if they would be taking the matter further. In fact, Six Nations officials later revealed they were reviewing the issue.

Before the kick-off, Howley had admitted that players and management had been "hurt" by weeks of withering criticism over his risk-averse team selection, but had obviously felt vindicated by the hard-fought 22-9 win over Ireland in again not making changes to the line-up in Paris: *"France have probably been one of the best sides in the championship, but this group of players have been there. We've won over in France before… We know how to win there,"* he had asserted confidently.

However, almost from the outset, alarm bells rang – the home team roaring out and establishing early dominance up front, particularly at the scrum, and then racing into a 10-0 lead inside the first quarter, through a converted try and penalty.

Wales slowly began to regroup and attempted a breakout, prompted by outside half Dan Biggar, but the promising move was thwarted when a pass meant to free danger man George North down the right wing, was intercepted by a defender's flailing arm, resulting in a yellow card.

Despite their dominance, France were unable to make further inroads into the steadfast Welsh defence and frustration led to three first half penalties (one from over halfway) for the immaculate Leigh Halfpenny to keep his side in touch, with a one-point deficit (10-9) at the changeover.

Welsh hopes suffered a blow when skipper Alun Wyn Jones was injured and later forced to leave the field and Wales came under a renewed onslaught, one threatening attack breaking down when a final pass went into touch.

The powerhouse pack then encamped on the Wales try line in a penalty-forcing rehearsal for what was to come in the dramatic later stages, but on this occasion they were repelled. Suddenly, though, the Welsh scrum reasserted itself and Halfpenny landed another huge howitzer from halfway, and followed it with his fifth successful attempt, to increase the lead to 15-10 – only for Wales to concede a penalty directly in front of their posts.

Not to be outdone, Halfpenny stepped up to land his sixth and final penalty kick to give Wales a five-point lead at 18-13, with just 10 minutes of normal time remaining.

Little did we know then of the long drawn out drama that was to follow before the French pack finally bludgeoned its way over for the converted touchdown that sent Wales to the bottom of the RBS Six Nations table, with just two wins out of five and only hapless whipping boys Italy below them.

As Alun Wyn Jones said afterwards – *"It's just not good enough."*

The public inquest is likely to be prolonged, with the Welsh coaches, defence guru Sean Edwards excepted (yet strangely he is the one without a seat on the Lions' tour plane this summer!) braced for the inevitable backlash – with the style and substance of Welsh attacking play the main focus for continuing, widespread disquiet.

On Saturday, try-less Wales were barely able to launch a meaningful attack against opponents who were big on brawn, but whose legs were hardly tested for stamina in the wide open spaces.

In fact, the whole campaign had mustered only eight touchdowns, two more than hapless Italy and half that of England, who under Eddie Jones have revelled in a new, more expansive style.

Crisis may be far too strong a word, but the WRU could yet regret allowing the bulk of their coaching group to spend time in New Zealand, rather than focus on the underlying problems at home that continue to hold back this talented squad's development.